
Introduction

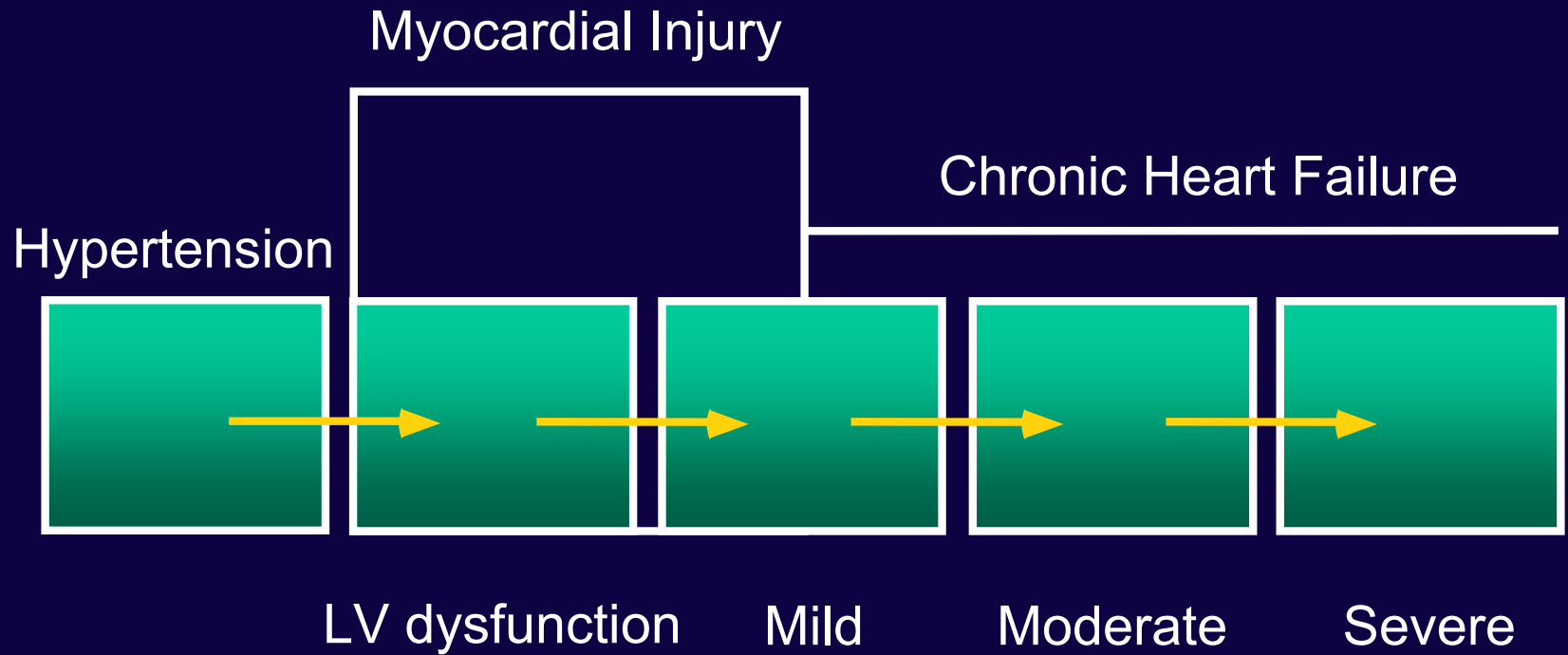
Clare Kahn, Ph.D.

Vice President, US Regulatory Affairs
Cardiovascular, Urogenital & Metabolic Products,
GlaxoSmithKline

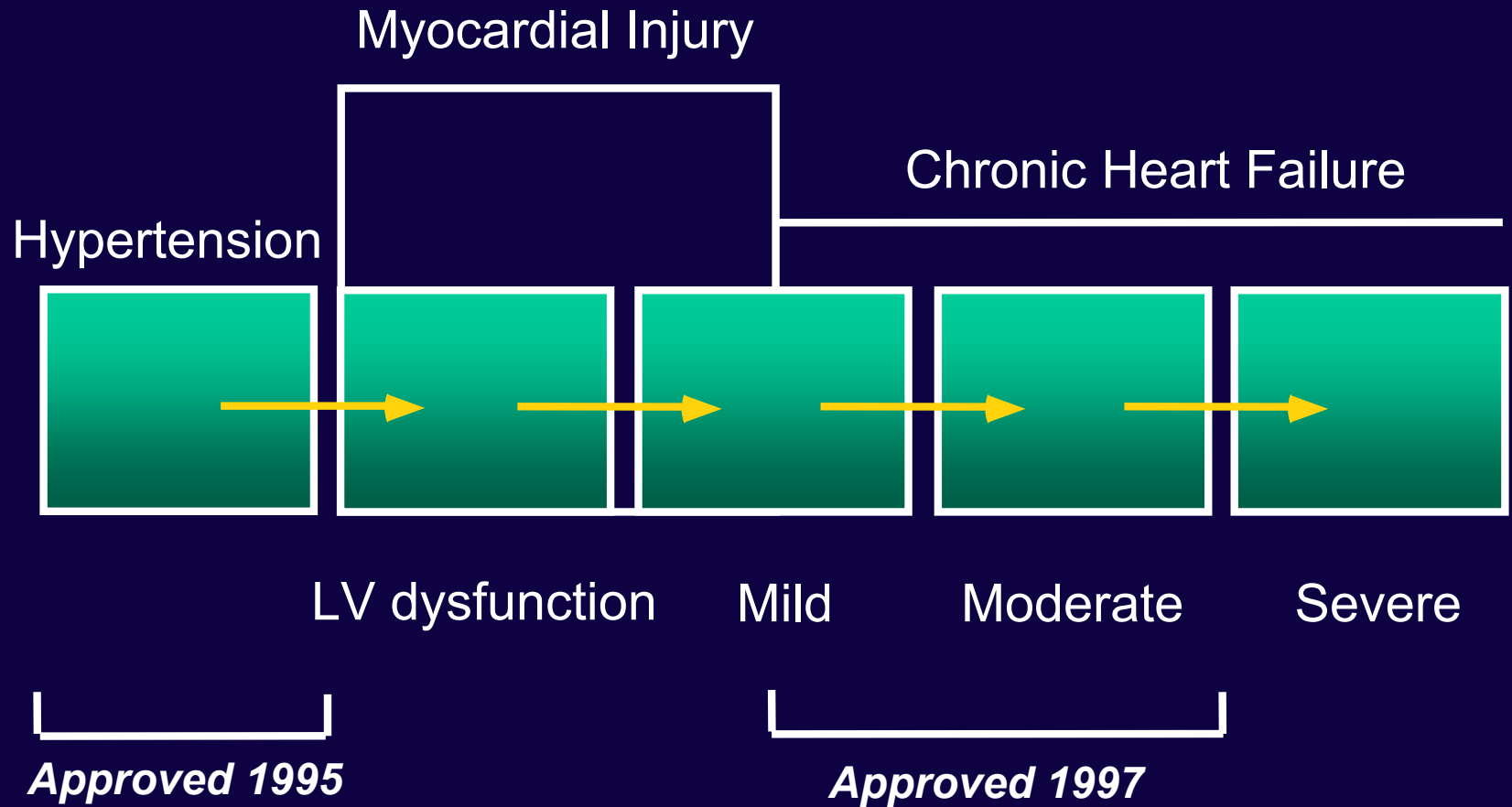
Carvedilol

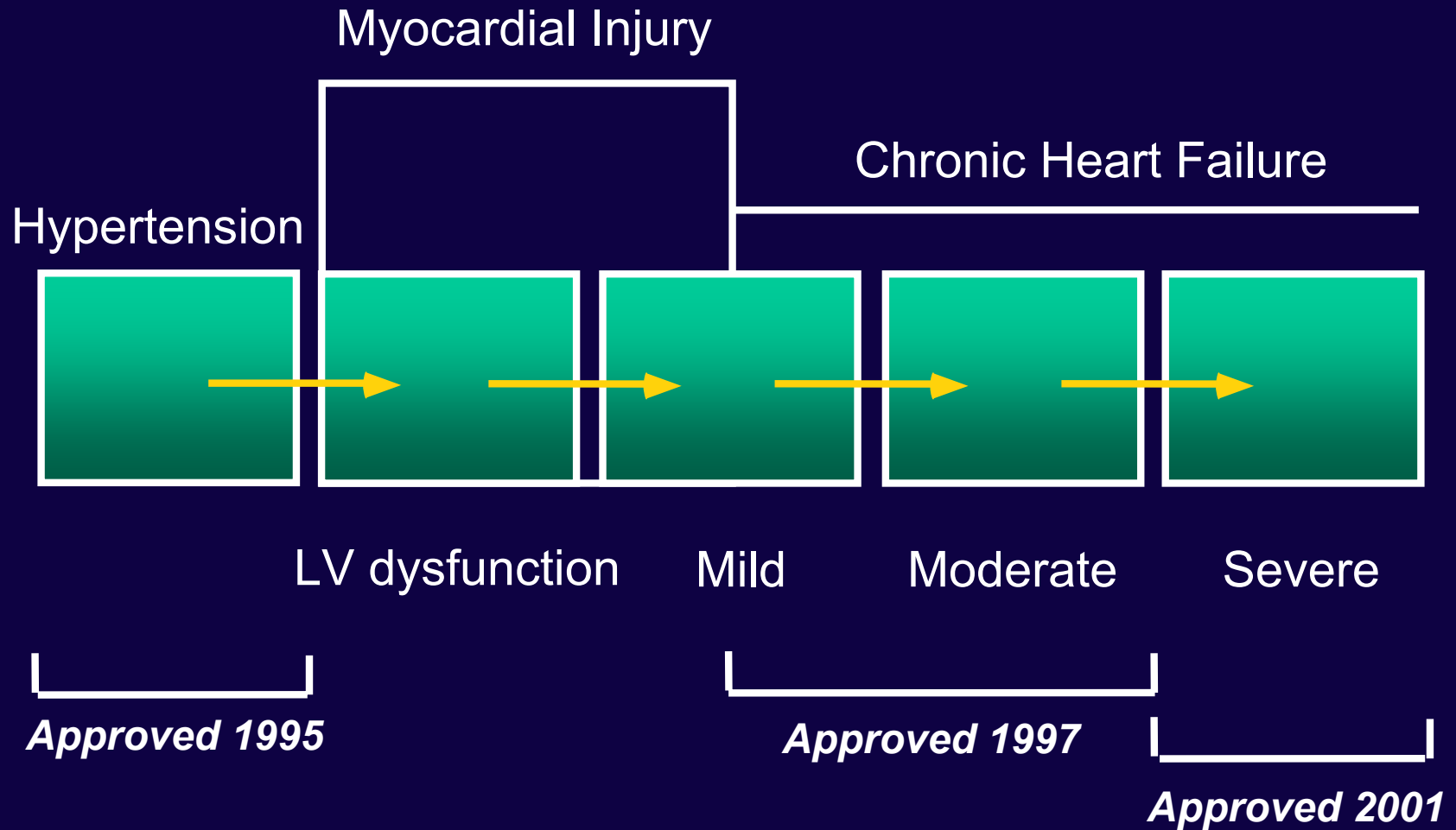
Pharmacological Properties

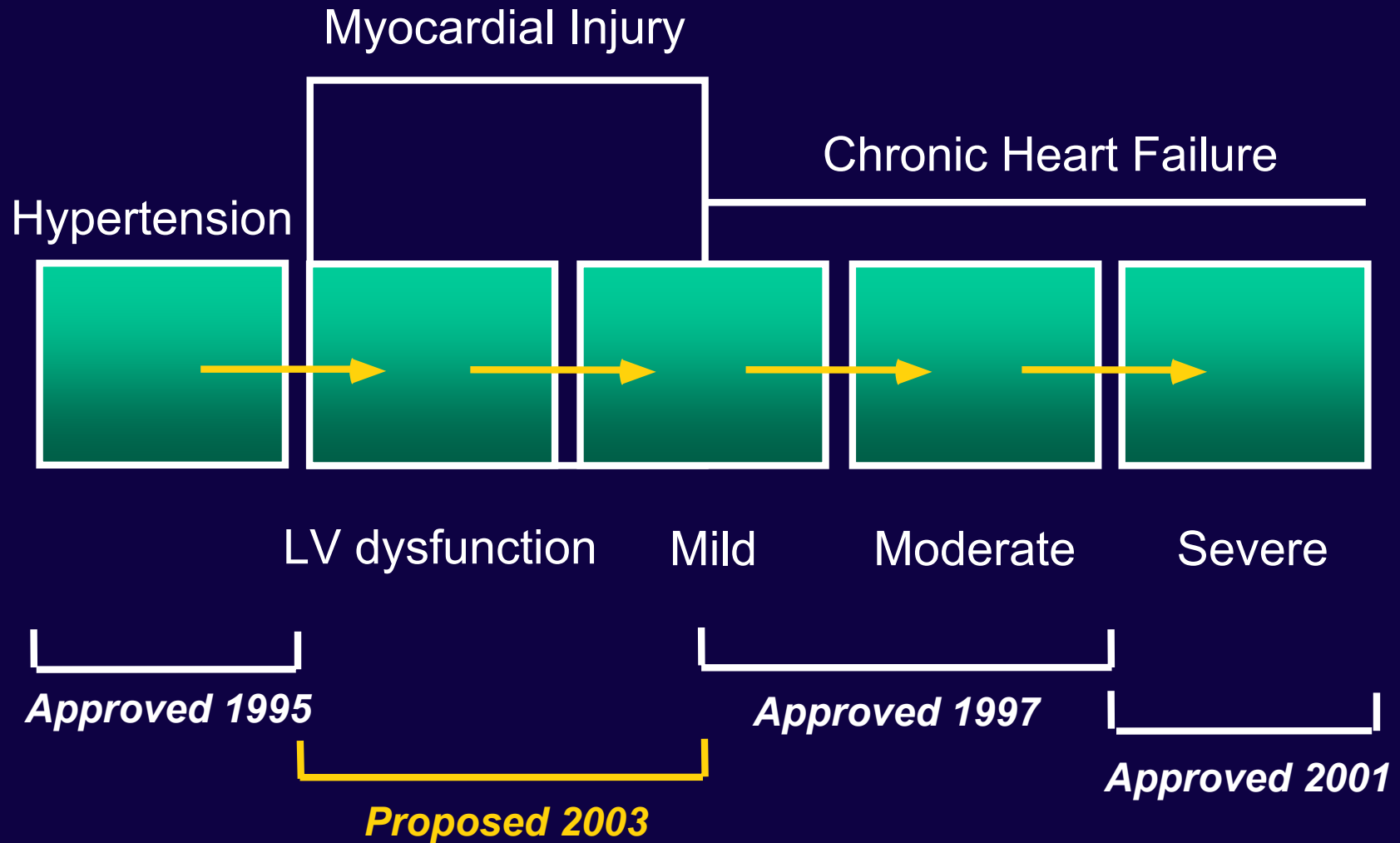
- Nonselective β -adrenergic receptor antagonist
- α_1 -adrenergic receptor antagonist



Approved 1995







Scope of Presentation

Use of Beta-blockers in Post-infarction Patients

Carvedilol Pilot: “CHAPS”



**Carvedilol
Pivotal Trial**

“CAPRICORN”



Labeling

Primary Endpoint: All cause mortality



DSMB

Co-Primary Endpoints:

- Death or CV Hospitalization
- All cause mortality

Proposed Indication

Coreg is indicated to reduce mortality and the risk of infarction in clinically stable patients who have survived the acute phase of a myocardial infarction and have a left ventricular ejection fraction of $\leq 40\%$.

Agenda

Introduction

Clare Kahn, Ph.D.

Background to
the CAPRICORN Trial

Mary Ann Lukas, M.D.

CAPRICORN Trial

Primary Endpoints

Why Are We Here?

Henry Dargie, MB., ChB.

Milton Packer, M.D.

CAPRICORN Trial

Effect on Non-Fatal Events

Henry Dargie, MB., ChB.

Safety and Concluding
Remarks

Milton Packer, M.D.

Consultants

Henry Dargie, MB., ChB.

University of Glasgow

Principal Investigator, CAPRICORN

Milton Packer, M.D.

Columbia University

Planning Committee, CAPRICORN

Principal Investigator, COPENICUS

Ian Ford, Ph.D.

University of Glasgow

Biostatistician, CAPRICORN

Jonathan Sackner-Bernstein, M.D.

Columbia University

Endpoint Committee, CAPRICORN

Background to the CAPRICORN Trial

Mary Ann Lukas, M.D.

Beta-Blockers Approved for Use in Survivors of An Acute Myocardial Infarction

- Timolol
- Propranolol
- Metoprolol tartrate (immediate-release)

Trials of Beta-Blockers Approved for Use in Survivors of An Acute Myocardial Infarction

- Norwegian Timolol Trial (timolol)
- Beta-Blocker Heart Attack Trial (propranolol)
- Göteborg Metoprolol Trial (metoprolol)
- Lopressor Intervention Trial (metoprolol)

Patient Populations Not Included in Earlier Post-Infarction Trials of β -Blockers

- High risk patients (e.g., heart failure or systolic BP < 100-110 mm Hg) were generally not enrolled.
- Many currently available treatments for the *immediate* management of the post-infarction patient were not available or used (e.g., ACE inhibitors, IV nitroglycerin, heparin, thrombolytics).
- Many currently available treatments for the *long-term* management of the post-infarction patient were not allowed (e.g., ACE inhibitors, aspirin, anticoagulants or lipid lowering drugs).

Should β -blockers Still Be Used in the Post-Infarction Patients in the Modern Era?

Are β -blockers still needed?

- Trials carried out before advent of ACE inhibitors, thrombolytics, heparin, aspirin, anticoagulants or lipid lowering drugs.

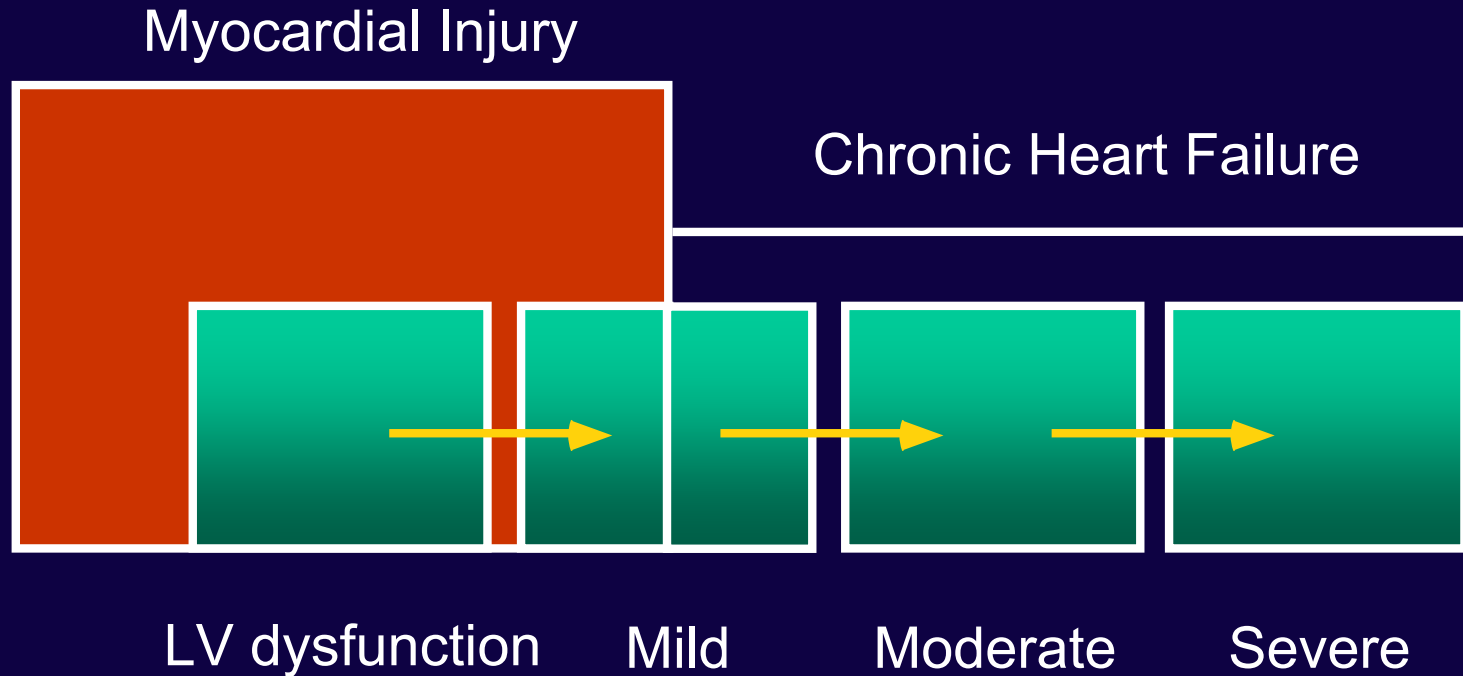
Are β -blockers worth the risks?

- Concerns about risk of worsening heart failure (in patients with low EF) or hypotension (in patients with receiving ACE inhibitors or vasodilators).

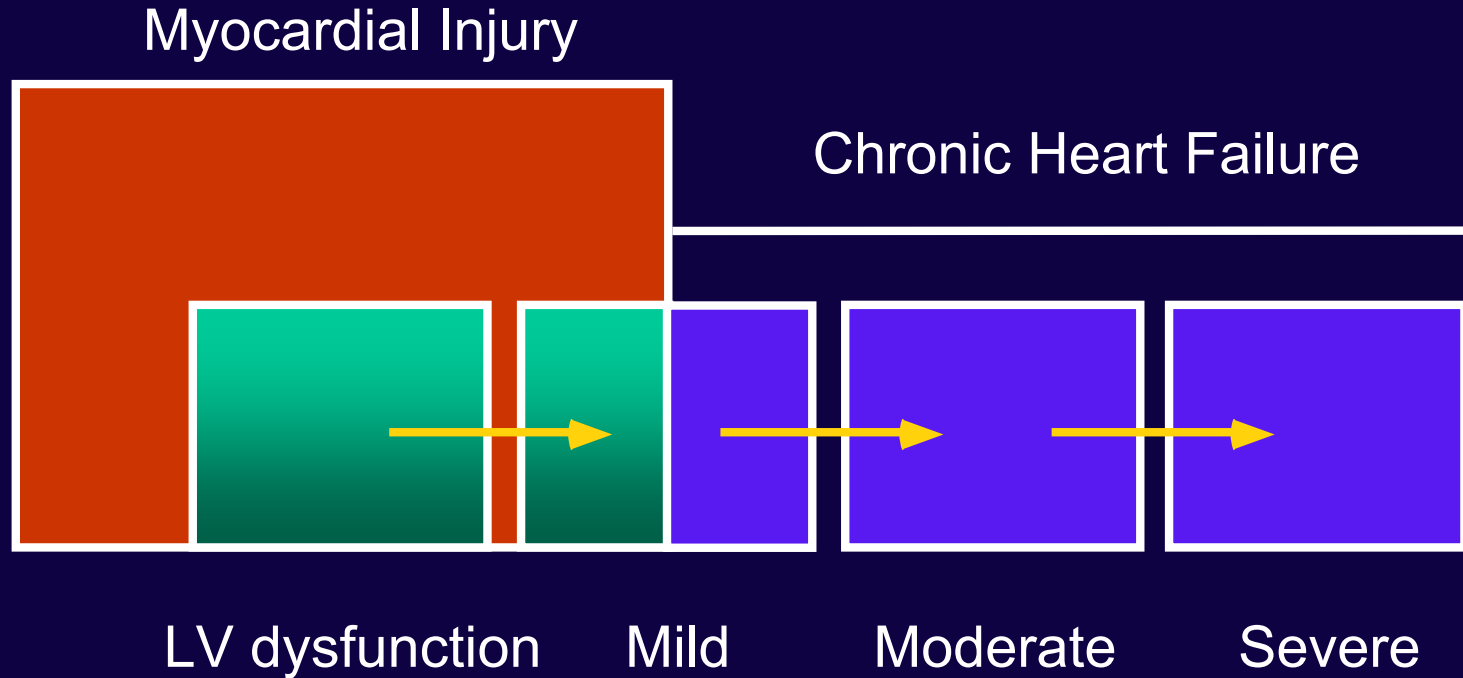
To Complicate Matters Further . . .

- The β -blockers approved for use in post-infarction patients are not approved for heart failure and currently carry a contraindication to their use in heart failure.
 - Timolol, propranolol and immediate-release metoprolol
- The β -blockers approved for use in chronic heart failure are not approved for use following a recent myocardial infarction.
 - Carvedilol and sustained-release metoprolol

Timolol, propranolol, metoprolol IR



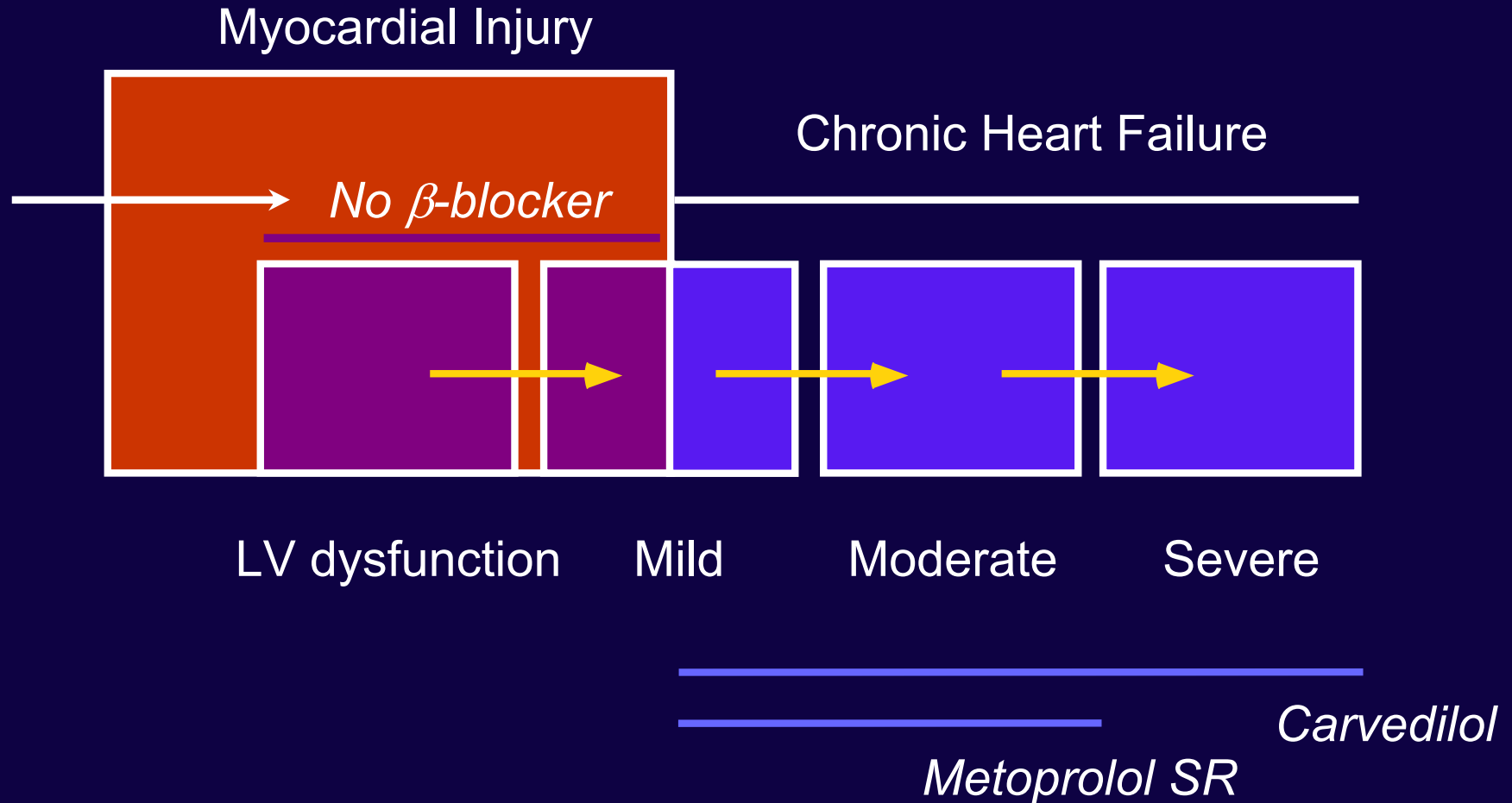
Timolol, propranolol, metoprolol IR



Carvedilol

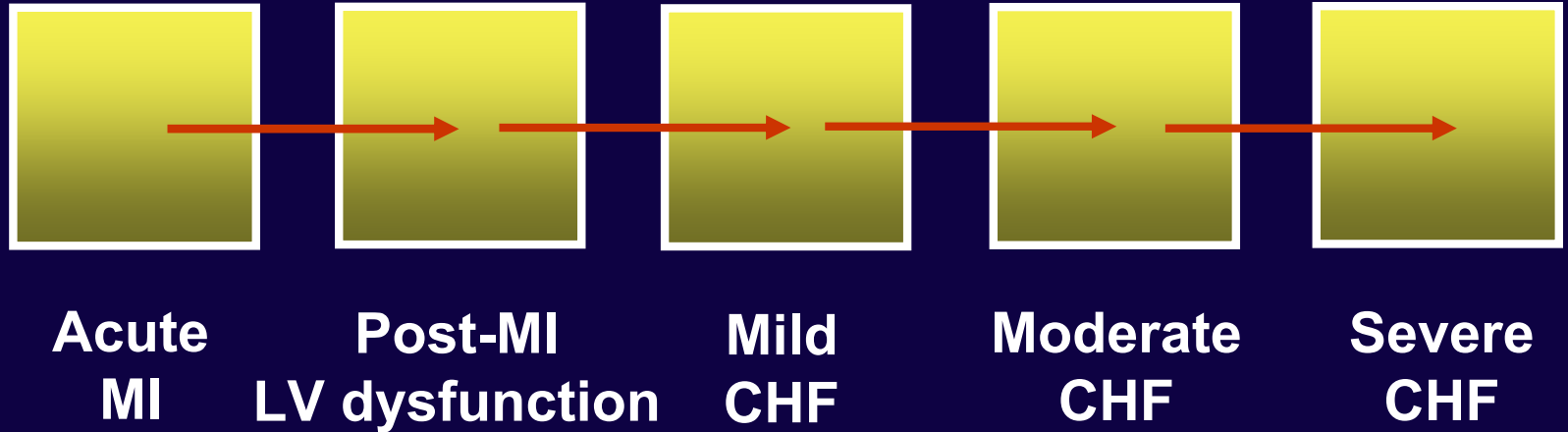
Metoprolol SR

Timolol, propranolol, metoprolol IR



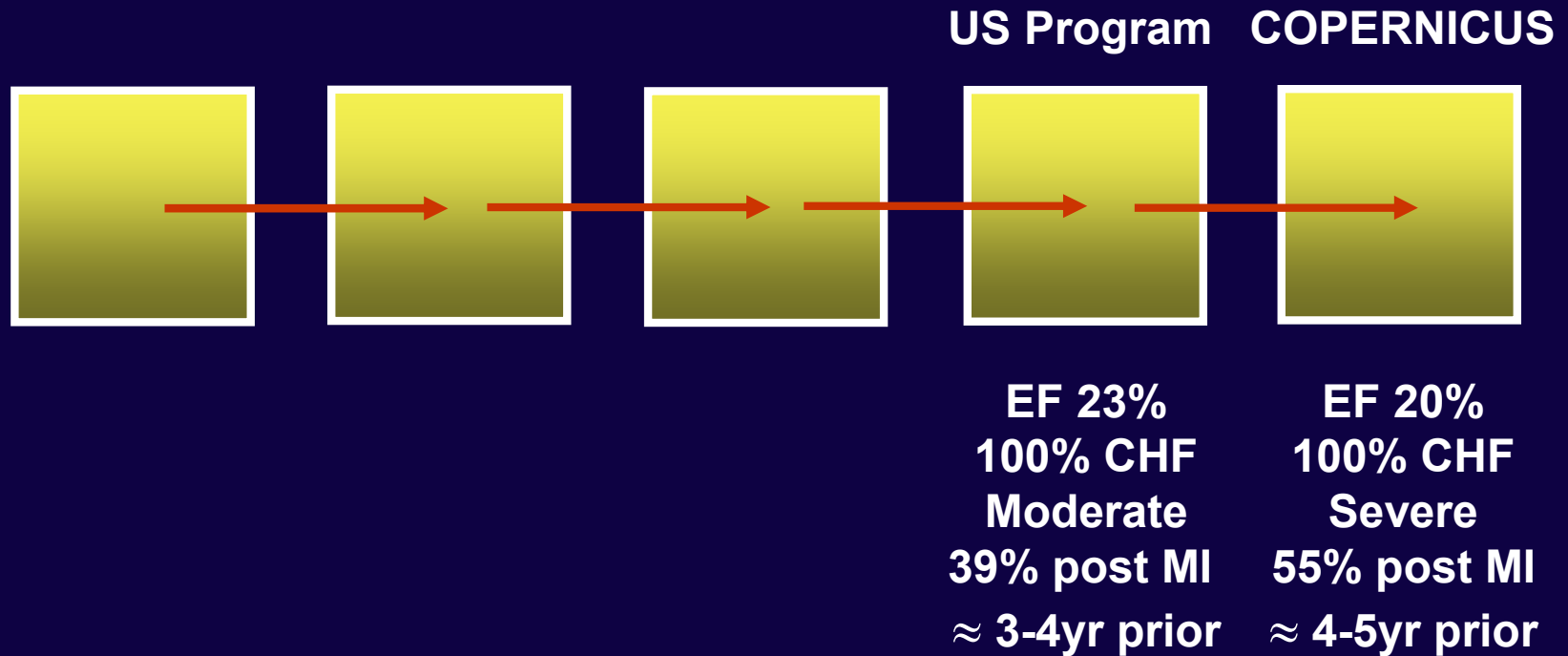
Recent
Myocardial Infarction

Remote
Myocardial Infarction

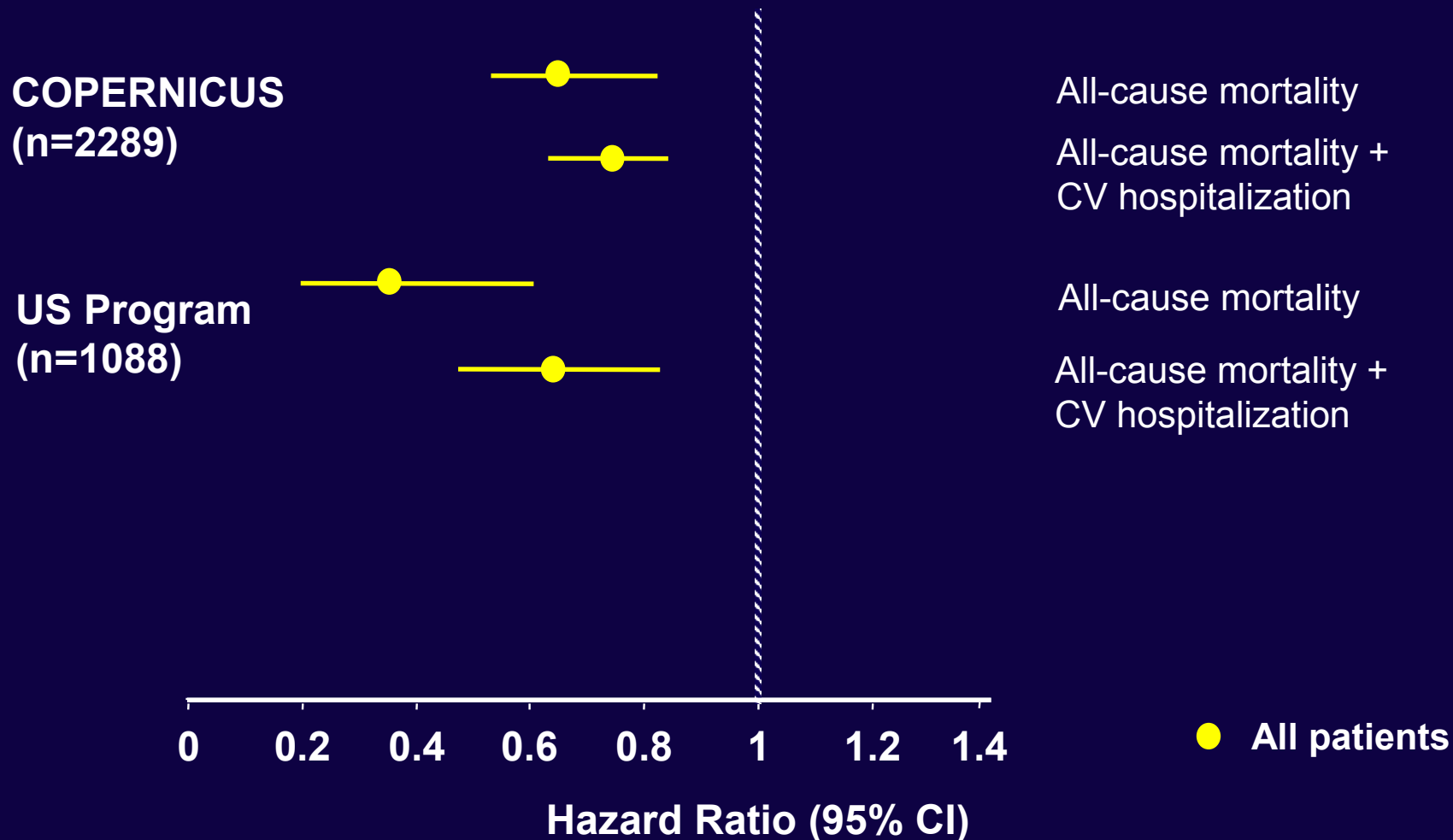


Recent Myocardial Infarction

Remote Myocardial Infarction



Effect of Carvedilol in Chronic Heart Failure With a Remote Myocardial Infarction



Effect of Carvedilol in Chronic Heart Failure With a Remote Myocardial Infarction

COPERNICUS
(n=2289)

US Program
(n=1088)

All-cause mortality

All-cause mortality +
CV hospitalization

All-cause mortality

All-cause mortality +
CV hospitalization

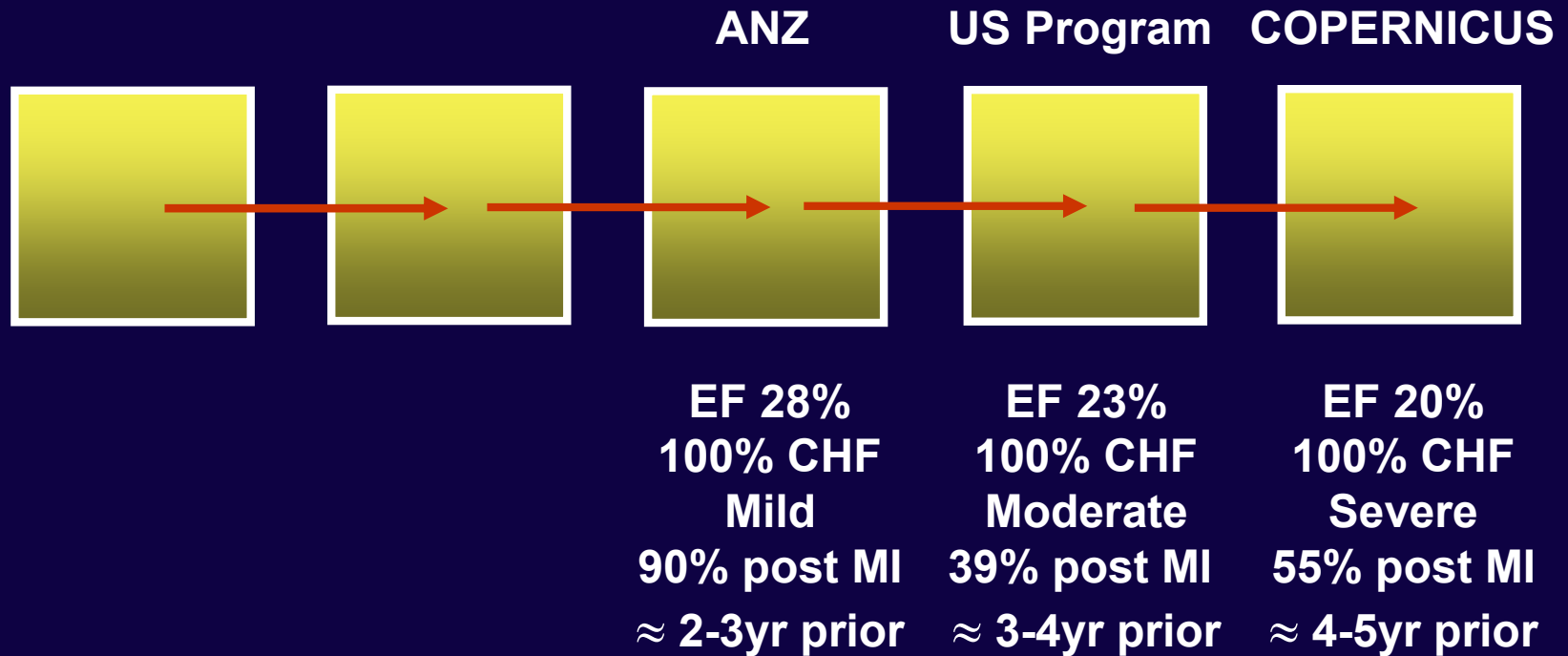
0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1 1.2 1.4

Hazard Ratio (95% CI)

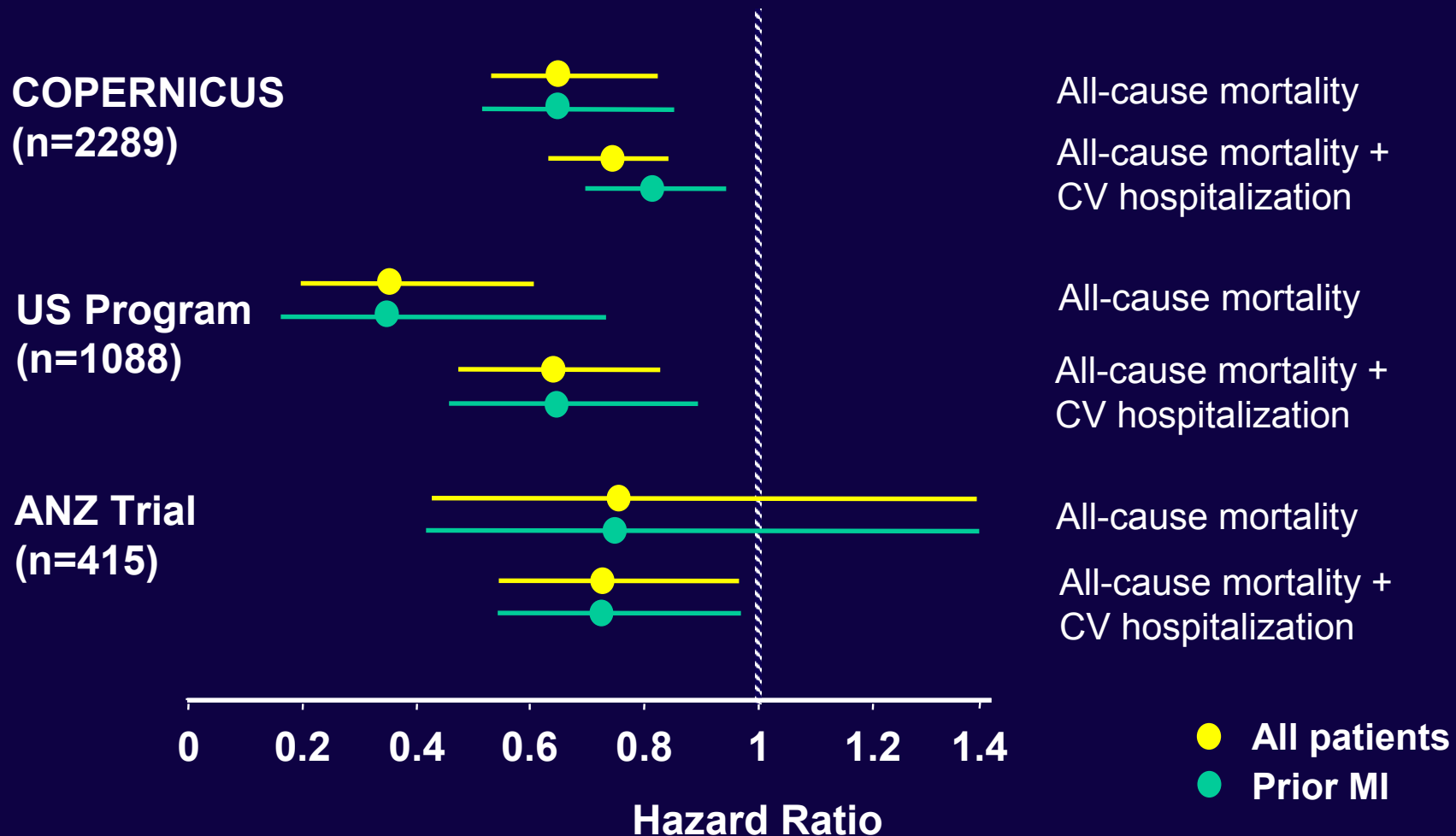
● All patients
● Prior MI

Recent Myocardial Infarction

Remote Myocardial Infarction

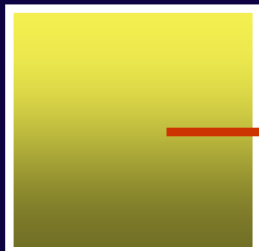


Effect of Carvedilol in Chronic Heart Failure With a Remote Myocardial Infarction

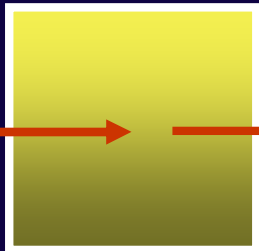


Recent Myocardial Infarction

CHAPS



CAPRICORN



EF 50%
15-25% CHF

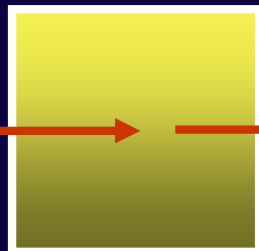
100% post MI
≈ 17h prior

EF 33%
50% CHF

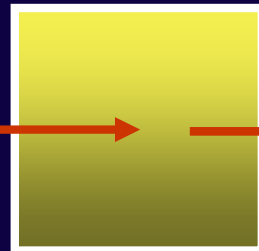
100% post MI
≈ 10d prior

Remote Myocardial Infarction

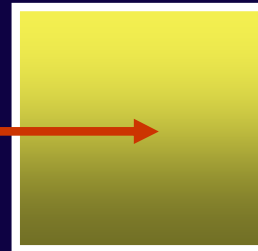
ANZ



US Program



COPERNICUS



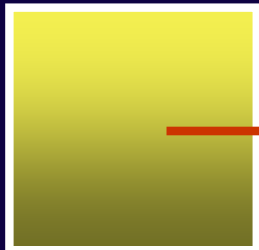
EF 28%
100% CHF
Mild
90% post MI
≈ 2-3yr prior

EF 23%
100% CHF
Moderate
39% post MI
≈ 3-4yr prior

EF 20%
100% CHF
Severe
55% post MI
≈ 4-5yr prior

Recent Myocardial Infarction

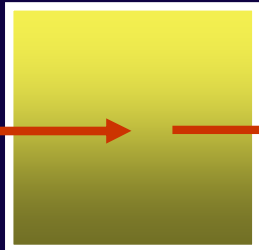
CHAPS



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100% post MI
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CAPRICORN

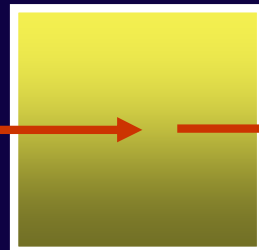


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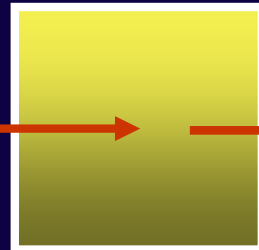
Remote Myocardial Infarction

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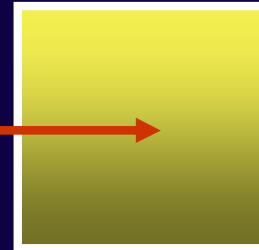
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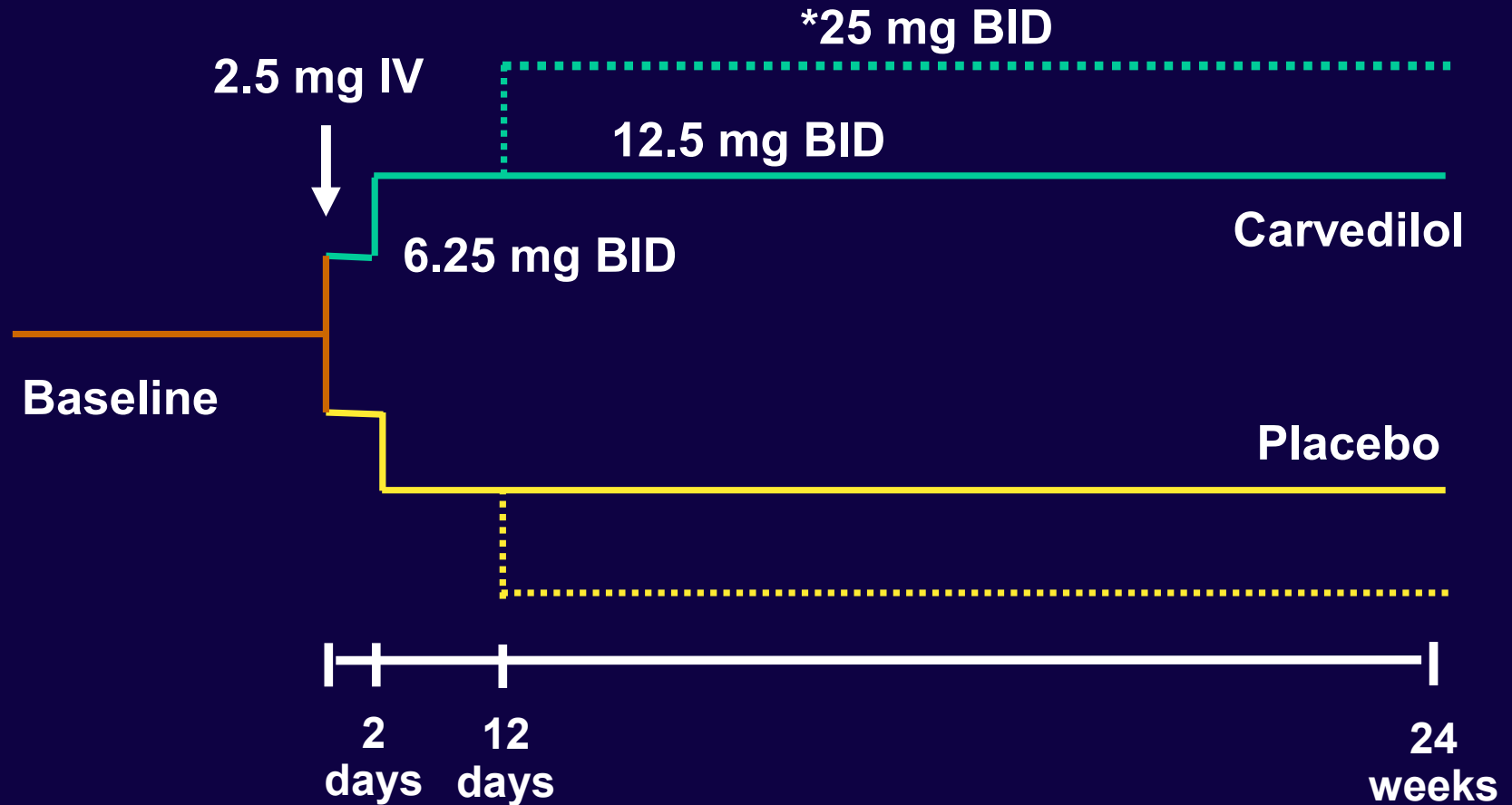
EF 20%
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Severe
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CHAPS: Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

- Acute myocardial infarction (chest pain, ECG changes and CK elevation) within 24 hours. Use of thrombolytics and aspirin was encouraged.
- Excluded if patient had bradycardia, heart block, systolic BP < 90, peripheral vascular disease, obstructive airways disease, insulin dependent diabetes or received beta-blocker prior to study entry.

CHAPS: Study Design



*Titrated if SBP>120 mmHg, HR>55bpm

CHAPS: Primary Endpoint

Time to one of the following:

- Cardiac death
- Heart failure
- Recurrent myocardial infarction or unstable angina
- Cerebrovascular accident
- Ventricular arrhythmia requiring medical therapy
- Emergency revascularization
- Use of a new cardiovascular drug (except for nitrates or diuretics within 72 hrs of onset of pain)

CHAPS: Patient Disposition

- 151 patients randomized (74 placebo, 77 carvedilol)
- One patient (placebo) was withdrawn before receiving study drug. Four (2 in each group) did not have acute MI and had study drug withdrawn within 4 days
- 146 remaining patients were most commonly titrated to 12.5 mg BID (90% carvedilol, 73% placebo)
- Only 87 patients continued to receive study drug for 24 weeks. Most common reason for withdrawal was occurrence of primary endpoint.

CHAPS: Baseline Characteristics

	Placebo (n=71)	Carvedilol (n=75)
Age (years)	60	60
Sex (men/women)	60/11	63/12
History of hypertension	24%	9%
History of diabetes	18%	12%
Current smoker	34%	52%
History of MI before index MI	4%	3%
Site of index MI (% anterior)	51%	51%
Thrombolytic therapy for index MI	96%	99%
Aspirin therapy for index MI	100%	100%
IV heparin for index MI	96%	97%
Coronary vasodilators for index MI	78%	83%
Diuretics for heart failure post index MI	11%	25%
LV ejection fraction 48 hrs post randomization	0.51	0.51
Systolic BP (mm Hg)	130	130
Heart rate (beats/min)	80	80
Time from index MI to randomization (median)	17.0 hours	16.5 hours

CHAPS: Baseline Characteristics

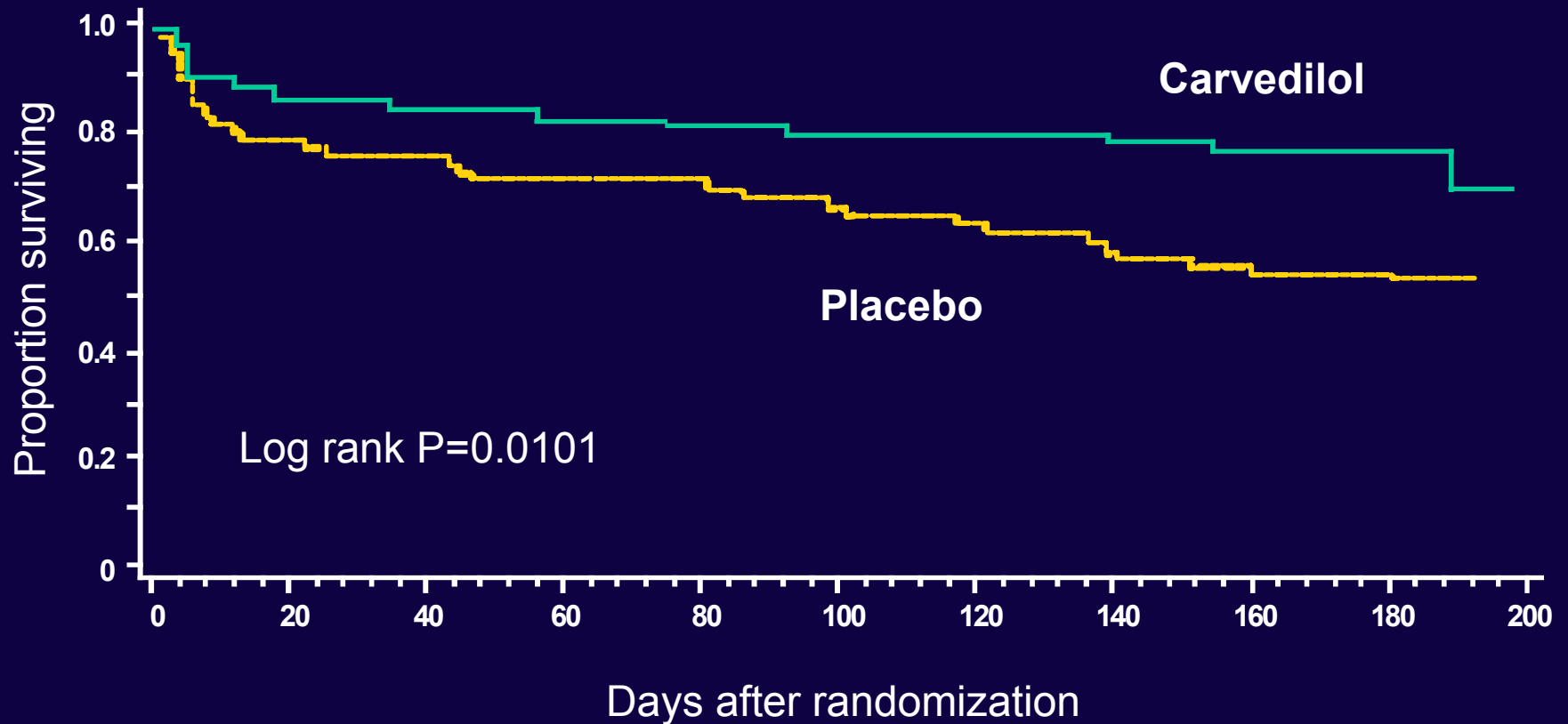
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CHAPS: Primary Endpoint

	Placebo (n=71)	Carvedilol (n=75)
Cardiac death	3	2
Heart failure	5	5
Recurrent myocardial infarction	8	4
Unstable angina	6	3
Stroke	1	0
Emergent revascularization	2	0
Ventricular arrhythmia requiring IV treatment	1	0
New cardiovascular therapy	5	4
<i>Total number of patients</i>	31	18

The new cardiovascular therapies were an ACE inhibitor for hypertension (n=1) and for a low ejection fraction (n=1) and a calcium antagonist for stable angina (n=3) in the placebo group and were a calcium antagonist for stable angina (n=2), an ACE inhibitor for worsening heart failure (n=1), and elective coronary artery bypass (n=1) in the carvedilol group.

CHAPS: Primary Endpoint



CHAPS: Primary Endpoint (ITT Analysis)

	Primary Analysis		Intention-to-Treat	
	Placebo (n=71)	Carvedilol (n=75)	Placebo (n=73)	Carvedilol (n=77)
Cardiac death	3	2	3	2
Heart failure	5	5	5	5
Recurrent infarction	8	4	8	4
Unstable angina	6	3	6	4
Stroke	1	0	1	0
Emergent CABG	2	0	2	0
Ventricular arrhythmia	1	0	2	0
New CV therapy	5	4	5	4
<i>Total number of patients</i>	31	18	32	19
<i>Log rank P value</i>	P=0.0101		P=0.0103	

CHAPS: Secondary Endpoint (Mortality)

Placebo

- 4 deaths (reinfarction in 2 and asystole in 2 [1 due to ventricular rupture]) occurring 1, 3, 26 and 56 days after randomization.

Carvedilol

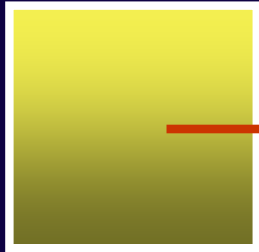
- 2 deaths (electromechanical dissociation in 1 patient and asystole in 1 patient) occurring 2 and 78 days after randomization.

CHAPS: Summary

- The CHAPS study supports ability of carvedilol to reduce the risk of death and reinfarction in post-infarction patients.
- The CHAPS study demonstrates the tolerability of carvedilol in immediate post-infarction period.

Recent Myocardial Infarction

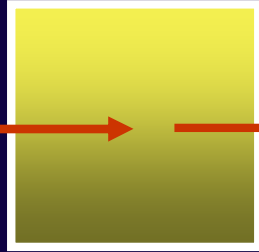
CHAPS



EF 50%
15-25% CHF

100% post MI
≈ 17h prior

CAPRICORN

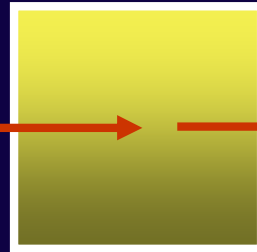


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100% post MI
≈ 10d prior

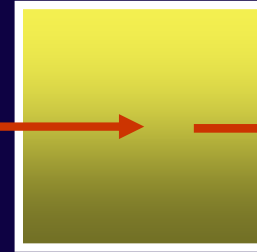
Remote Myocardial Infarction

ANZ



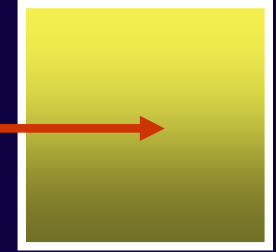
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US Program



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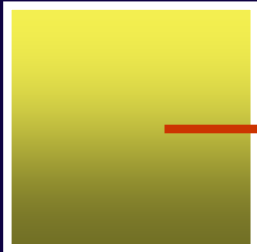
COPERNICUS



EF 20%
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Severe
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Recent Myocardial Infarction

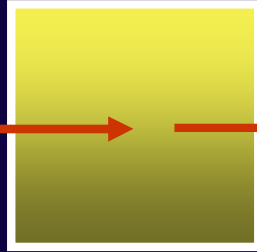
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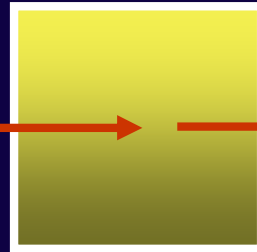


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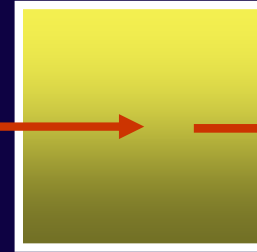
Remote Myocardial Infarction

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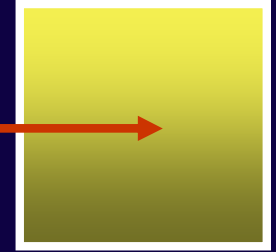
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Primary Results of the CAPRICORN Trial

Henry Dargie, MB., ChB.

Objective/Study Design

- To evaluate the effect of carvedilol on all-cause mortality in patients with LV dysfunction who have recently survived an acute myocardial infarction in the modern era
- Multicenter, randomized, placebo-controlled, parallel-group trial in patients with LV ejection fraction $\leq 40\%$, with or without heart failure
- Involved 163 centers in 17 countries (including those in Europe, Israel, North America, Australia, New Zealand)

Study Organization

Steering Committee

H Dargie (UK), W Colucci (US), JL Lopez-Sendon (Es),
W Remme (NL), N Sharpe (NZ)

Endpoint Committee

J McMurray (UK) , L Kober (DK), J Sackner-Bernstein
(US), J Soler-Soler (Es), F Zannad(F)

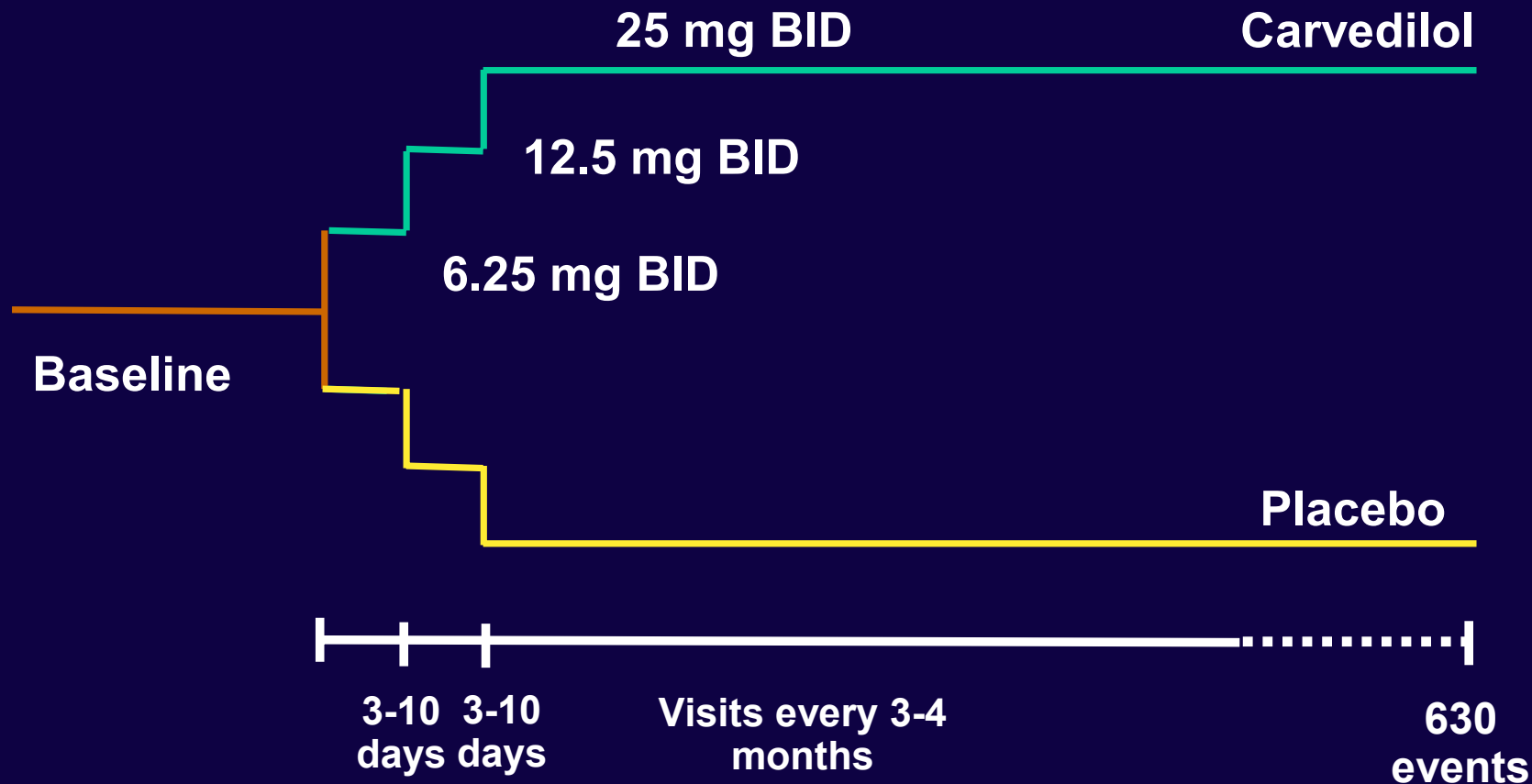
Data and Safety Monitoring Board

D Julian (UK), B Massie (US), S Thompson (UK),
L Wilhelmson (DK), I Ford (UK)

Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

- Acute myocardial infarction within 21 days. Use of all adjunctive therapy was encouraged.
- LV ejection fraction $\leq 40\%$ and receiving ACE inhibitor ≥ 48 hr; 80% hospitalized at time of study entry.
- Excluded if unstable angina, uncontrolled ventricular arrhythmias or hypertension, bradycardia, heart block, systolic BP < 90 mm Hg, obstructive airways disease, unstable diabetes or requiring inotropic therapy.
- Clinically stable but may have had pulmonary edema or cardiogenic shock during index infarction.

Study Design



Protocol-Specified Endpoints

- Primary Endpoint
 - All cause mortality
- Secondary Endpoints
 - All-cause mortality or CV hospitalization
 - Sudden death
 - Progression of heart failure

Statistical Considerations

- Sample size was 2600 based on assumption that 21-month mortality would be 29% in the placebo group and that risk of death would be altered by 20% as a result of treatment with carvedilol (90% power, $\alpha=0.05$).
 - No allowance provided for open-label use of β -blockers.
- Trial was to continue until 630 patients had died with minimum follow-up of 12 months.
- All patients were to be followed until end of study whether they continued taking the study medication

DSMB Recommendation (March 1999)

- Enrollment began June 1997. Based on findings of CIBIS II and MERIT-HF (announced in late 1998 and early 1999), DSMB believed that patients developing heart failure should be considered for β -blockade.
- Since high rate of open-label β -blocker use might compromise study and in view of a lower than anticipated mortality rate DSMB recommended adoption of a new endpoint to allow accelerated completion of study.
- DSMB recommendations made in March 1999 prior to any formal interim analysis of unblinded data.

Response to DSMB Recommendations

	Original Protocol	Amended Protocol
Projected number of patients	2600	1850
Use of open-label beta-blockers	Strongly discouraged	Actively considered
Primary endpoint(s)	All-cause mortality	All-cause mortality; all-cause mortality or CV hospitalization
Assignment of alpha	0.05 to all-cause mortality	0.005 to all-cause mortality; 0.045 for death or CV hospitalization
Secondary endpoints	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All-cause mortality or CV hospitalization 2. Sudden death 3. Progression of heart failure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sudden death 2. Hospitalization for heart failure
Target number of events	630 deaths	633 fatal or non-fatal events
Anticipated treatment effect	20%	23%

Baseline Characteristics

	Placebo (n=984)	Carvedilol (n=975)
Age (years)	63	63
Sex (% men)	74%	73%
History of hypertension before index MI	52%	55%
History of angina before index MI	54%	57%
History of MI before index MI	29%	31%
ACE inhibitor use before index MI	7%	9%
Diabetes mellitus	23%	21%
Hyperlipidemia	33%	32%
β-Blocker use before index MI	3%	3%
Site of index MI (% anterior)	55%	59%
Typical cardiac pain during index MI	94%	95%
Pulmonary edema during index MI	18%	19%
↑ Cardiac enzymes during index MI	85%	84%

Baseline Characteristics

	Placebo (n=984)	Carvedilol (n=975)
Thrombolytic therapy for index MI	37%	36%
Primary coronary angioplasty for index MI	13%	12%
IV heparin for index MI	65%	63%
IV or other nitrate for index MI	73%	73%
IV β -blocker for index MI	10%	11%
Oral β -blocker for index MI	32%	31%
ACE inhibitor use before randomization	97%	98%
β -Blocker use before randomization	35%	33%
Aspirin use before randomization	85%	85%
Use of lipid lowering drugs before randomization	24%	22%
Heart failure prior to randomization	47%	48%
IV Diuretics for index MI	33%	35%
Systolic blood pressure (mm Hg)	121	122
Heart rate (beats/min)	77	77
Left ventricular ejection fraction	33%	33%
Days from index MI to randomization	10.0 (range 1-30)	10.0 (range 1-28)

Patient Disposition

- 1959 patients randomized (984 placebo, 975 carvedilol)
- Ten patients were randomized but did not receive the study drug (included in all analyses).
- Target doses achieved in 84% of placebo and 78% of carvedilol patients within 12 weeks and generally maintained for duration of study.
- Duration of follow-up: 3-33 months (mean 15 months)

Compliance with Study Medications

	Placebo	Carvedilol
Patients who permanently discontinued double-blind treatment	231	237
Patients who received open-label treatment with a β -blocker	145	91
Number of days until initiation of open label β -blocker	269	329
Number of days receiving open label β -blocker	150	109

Results on Primary Endpoints

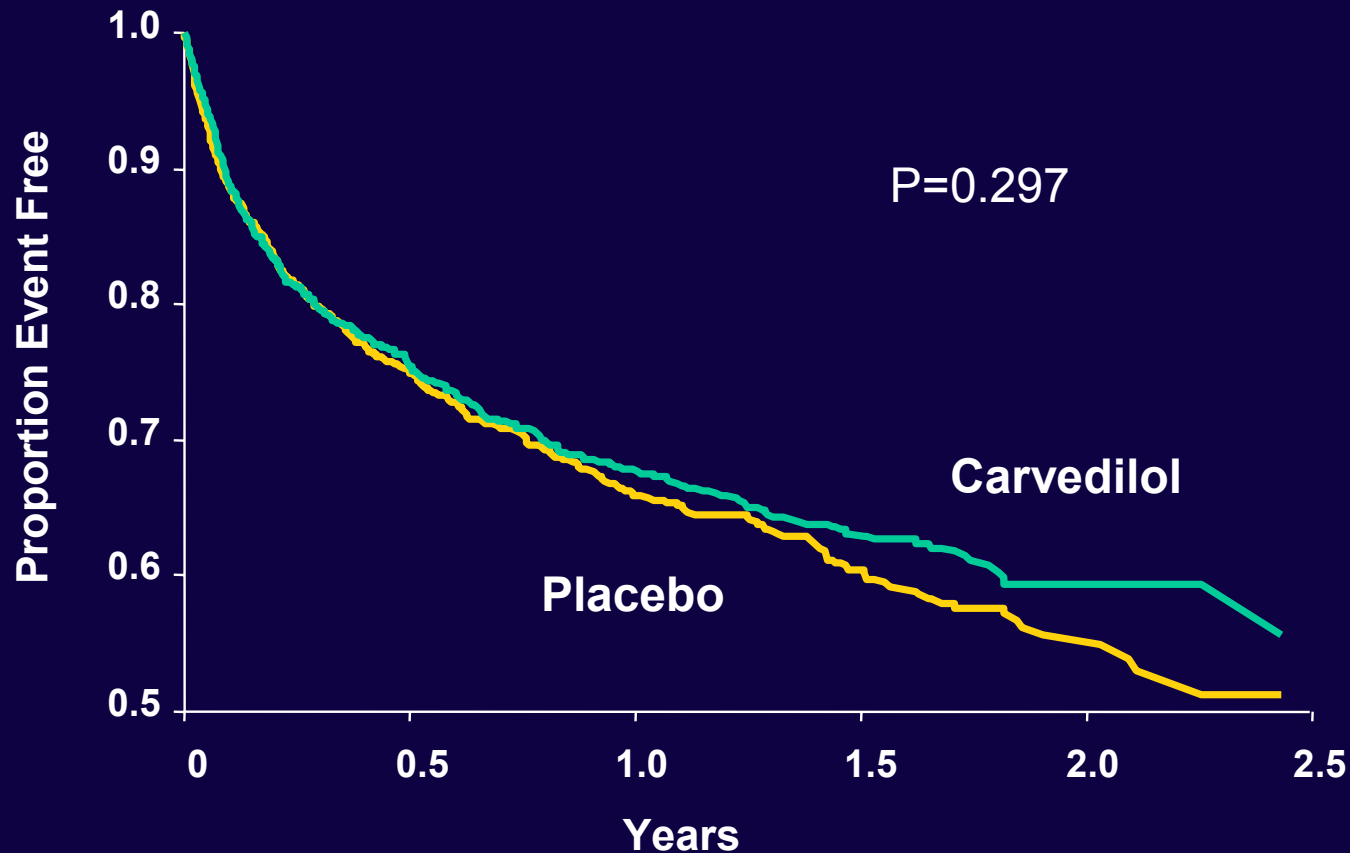
- All-cause mortality or cardiovascular hospitalization
- All-cause mortality

Co-Primary Endpoint

	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
All-cause mortality or cardiovascular hospitalization	367/984	340/975	0.92 (0.80-1.07)	0.297

Amended protocol $\alpha=0.045$

Death or Cardiovascular Hospitalization

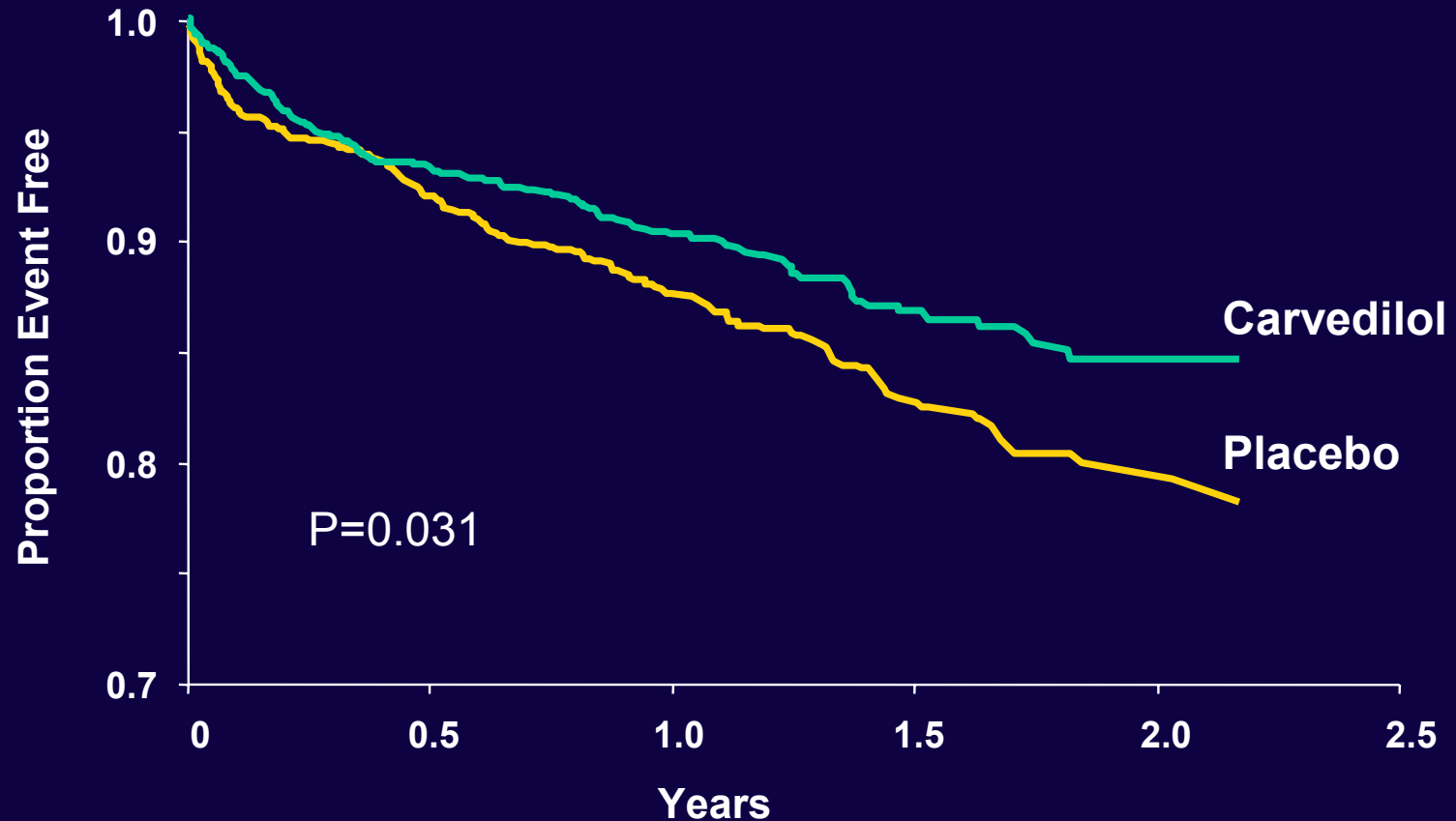


Co-Primary Endpoint

	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
All-cause mortality	151/984	116/975	0.77 (0.60-0.98)	0.031

Amended protocol $\alpha=0.005$
($\alpha=0.004$ after adjustment for
a single interim analysis)

All-Cause Mortality



Why Are We Here?

Milton Packer, M.D.

Critical Questions to the Committee

- Can the findings from a trial that did NOT meet its primary endpoint be used as the primary basis for labeling?
- If so, what criteria should the data supporting such a finding fulfill to justify incorporation into labeling?

Drugs Approved Based on the Results of Trials That Did Not Achieve Primary Endpoint

Digoxin (Lanoxin®)

- Indicated for treatment of mild-to-moderate heart failure to reduce heart failure-related hospitalizations.
- The trial that observed this benefit (DIG) did not achieve its primary endpoint (all-cause mortality), $P=0.80$.

Drugs Approved Based on the Results of Trials That Did Not Achieve Primary Endpoint

Enalapril (Vasotec®)

- Indicated for treatment of clinically stable asymptomatic patients with LV dysfunction ($EF < 35\%$) to decrease the rate of development of overt CHF and decrease the incidence of hospitalizations for heart failure.
- The trial that observed this benefit (SOLVD Prevention) did not achieve its primary endpoint (all-cause mortality, $P=0.30$).

Critical Questions to the Committee

- Can the findings from a trial that did NOT meet its primary endpoint be used as the primary basis for labeling?

Critical Questions to the Committee

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What Rules Should Guide the Decision to Allow the Inclusion of a “Discovery” Into Labeling?

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What Rules Should Guide the Decision to Allow the Inclusion of a “Discovery” Into Labeling?

- The criteria that would allow inclusion of a “discovery” into labeling should have strength of evidence comparable to that which would allow labeling based on a trial or trials that achieved their primary endpoints.
- Do such criteria allow one to conclude that carvedilol reduces mortality in post-infarction patients with LV dysfunction?

Death is a Unique Endpoint

- The finding of a reduction in the risk of death associated with treatment is always compelling, since death is an unbiased endpoint of paramount clinical importance.
- FDA review: “FDA has acted as if all clinical trials implicitly have $\alpha=0.05$ assigned to an analysis of mortality, independent of the primary end point.”

Do All Trials Have $\alpha=0.05$ Assigned to Mortality?

		Control	Drug	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
Vesnarinone (vs placebo)	Initial study	33/238	13/239	0.38 (0.20-0.72)	0.002
	Definitive study	242/1283	292/1275	1.22 (1.04-1.42)	0.02
Losartan (vs captopril)	Initial study	32/370	17/352	0.54 (0.31-0.95)	0.035
	Definitive study	250/1574	280/1578	1.13 (0.95-1.35)	0.16

CAPRICORN

- The mortality effect seen in CAPRICORN was not an accidental “discovery”.
- The CAPRICORN Trial was designed specifically to evaluate the effect of carvedilol on mortality.
- Large number of events (n=267) with high annual placebo mortality rate (12.1%).

Original Intent of the CAPRICORN Trial

	Original Protocol	Final Results
Main objective	Evaluate all-cause mortality	Evaluate all-cause mortality
Level of statistical significance	$\alpha=0.05$ to all-cause mortality	P=0.03 for all-cause mortality
Treatment effect	20% anticipated	23% observed

CAPRICORN

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- The CAPRICORN Trial was designed specifically to evaluate the effect of carvedilol on mortality.
- Large number of events (n=267) with high annual placebo mortality rate (12.1%).
- Mortality effects seen in the CAPRICORN trial have been replicated in (rather than contradicted by) other post-infarction β -blocker trials.

Do All Trials Have an Implicit α Assigned to the Analysis of Mortality?

- Even if one assumes that all trials implicitly have an $\alpha=0.05$ assigned to mortality, how persuasive is the $P=0.031$ observed for the mortality effect of carvedilol in the CAPRICORN trial?
- The $\alpha=0.005$ assigned to mortality in CAPRICORN set an extremely high standard of reproducibility — achieved by one trial with a very small P value or two or more trials with $P < 0.05$.

β -Blockers Shown to Reduce Mortality in a Large-Scale Controlled Clinical Trial

- Timolol
- Metoprolol
- Propranolol
- Acebutolol
- Practolol

Effect on Mortality of β -Blockers Approved for Post-Infarction Patients

Study Name	Treatment Groups	Average duration of f/u	# Patients Who Died		P value
			Placebo	β -Blocker	
Norwegian Timolol Study	Placebo (n=939) Timolol (n=945)	17 months	152	98	< 0.001
β -Blocker Heart Attack Trial	Placebo (n=1921) Propranolol (n=1916)	25 months	188	138	< 0.01
Göteborg Metoprolol Trial	Placebo (n=697) Metoprolol (n=698)	3 months	62	40	= 0.03
Lopressor Intervention Trial	Placebo (n=1200) Metoprolol (n=1195)	18 months	93	86	NS

Meta-Analysis of Effect of β -Blockers on Mortality in Earlier Post-Infarction Trials

	Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials
All-cause mortality	0.77 (0.69, 0.85)

Based on 2415 deaths in 24,974 patients enrolled in 31 trials

Sources: Freemantle et al, Br Med J 1999; 318:1730-7

Comparison of Results of CAPRICORN With Earlier Post-MI β -blocker Trials

Study Name	Treatment Groups	Average duration of f/u	# Patients Who Died		P value
			Placebo	β -Blocker	
Norwegian Timolol Study	Placebo (n=939) Timolol (n=945)	17 months	152	98	< 0.001
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CAPRICORN Trial	Placebo (n=984) Carvedilol (n=975)	15 months	151	116	= 0.03

Comparison of Results of CAPRICORN With Earlier Post-MI β -blocker Trials

	CAPRICORN Trial	Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials
All-cause mortality	0.77 (0.60, 0.98)	0.77 (0.69, 0.85)

Sources: Freemantle et al, Br Med J 1999; 318:1730-7

Comparison of Results of CAPRICORN With Earlier Post-MI β -blocker Trials

	CAPRICORN Trial	Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials	Heart Failure in Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials
All-cause mortality	0.77 (0.60, 0.98)	0.77 (0.69, 0.85)	0.79 (0.65, 0.96)

17 trials noted LV dysfunction or CHF, which was present in 22% of patients

Sources: Freemantle et al, Br Med J 1999; 318:1730-7
Houghton et al, Eur J Heart Failure 2000; 2:333-40

Is It Appropriate To Consider the Results of Other Post-Infarction β -Blocker Trials?

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Angiotensin Antagonists in Diabetic Nephropathy

- The Committee expressed skepticism about approvability of losartan based on a single trial — in the absence of other evidence.

Is It Appropriate To Consider the Results of Other Post-Infarction β -Blocker Trials?

Angiotensin Antagonists in Diabetic Nephropathy

- The Committee expressed skepticism about approvability of losartan based on a single trial — in the absence of other evidence.
- The Committee recommended approval when findings in the losartan trial were considered together with the highly concordant findings of a similar trial with irbesartan in the same disease — a trial which when considered alone did not lead the Committee to recommend approval of irbesartan.

Is It Appropriate To Consider the Results of Other Post-Infarction β -Blocker Trials?

Assumption Underlying Class Effect

- The Committee believed that neither losartan nor irbesartan had effects that might detract from their ability as angiotensin antagonists to prevent the progression of renal disease.
- Does carvedilol have effects that might detract from its actions as a beta-blocker to reduce mortality in the post-infarction setting?

Relation of Pharmacological Properties of β -Blockers and Effect of Survival in Post-Infarction Trials

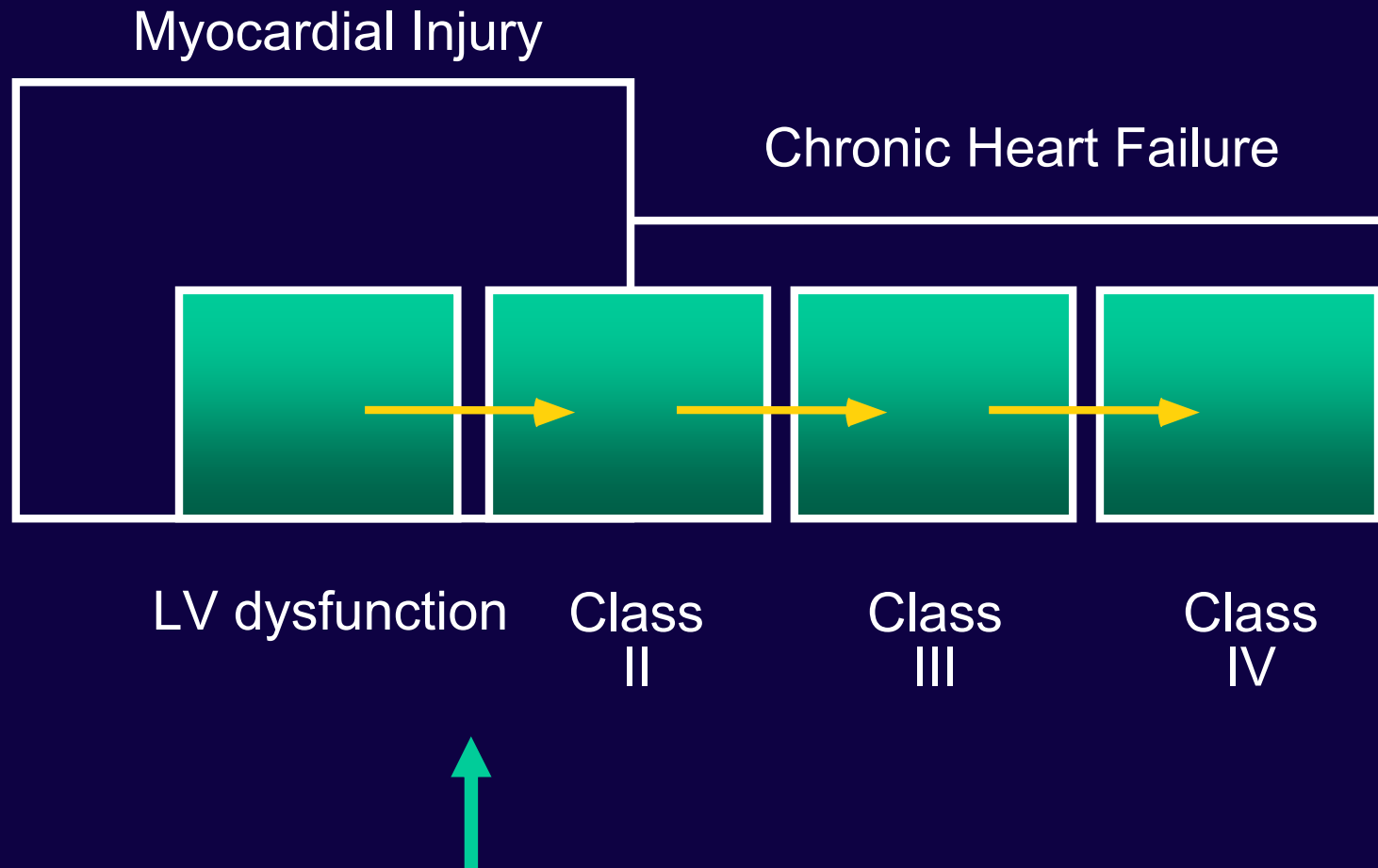
Drug	β -1 receptor blockade	Cardio- selective	Intrinsic sympatho- mimetic activity	Odds ratio vs placebo (95%CI)
Timolol	+	—	—	0.59 (0.46-0.77)
Propranolol	+	—	—	0.71 (0.59-0.85)
Sotalol	+	—	—	0.80 (0.54-1.21)
Metoprolol	+	+	—	0.80 (0.66-0.96)
Practolol	+	+	+	0.80 (0.63-1.02)
Alprenolol	+	—	+	0.83 (0.59-1.17)
Oxprenolol	+	—	+	0.91 (0.71-1.17)
Pindolol	+	—	+	0.96 (0.60-1.55)
All β -blockers				0.77 (0.69-0.85)

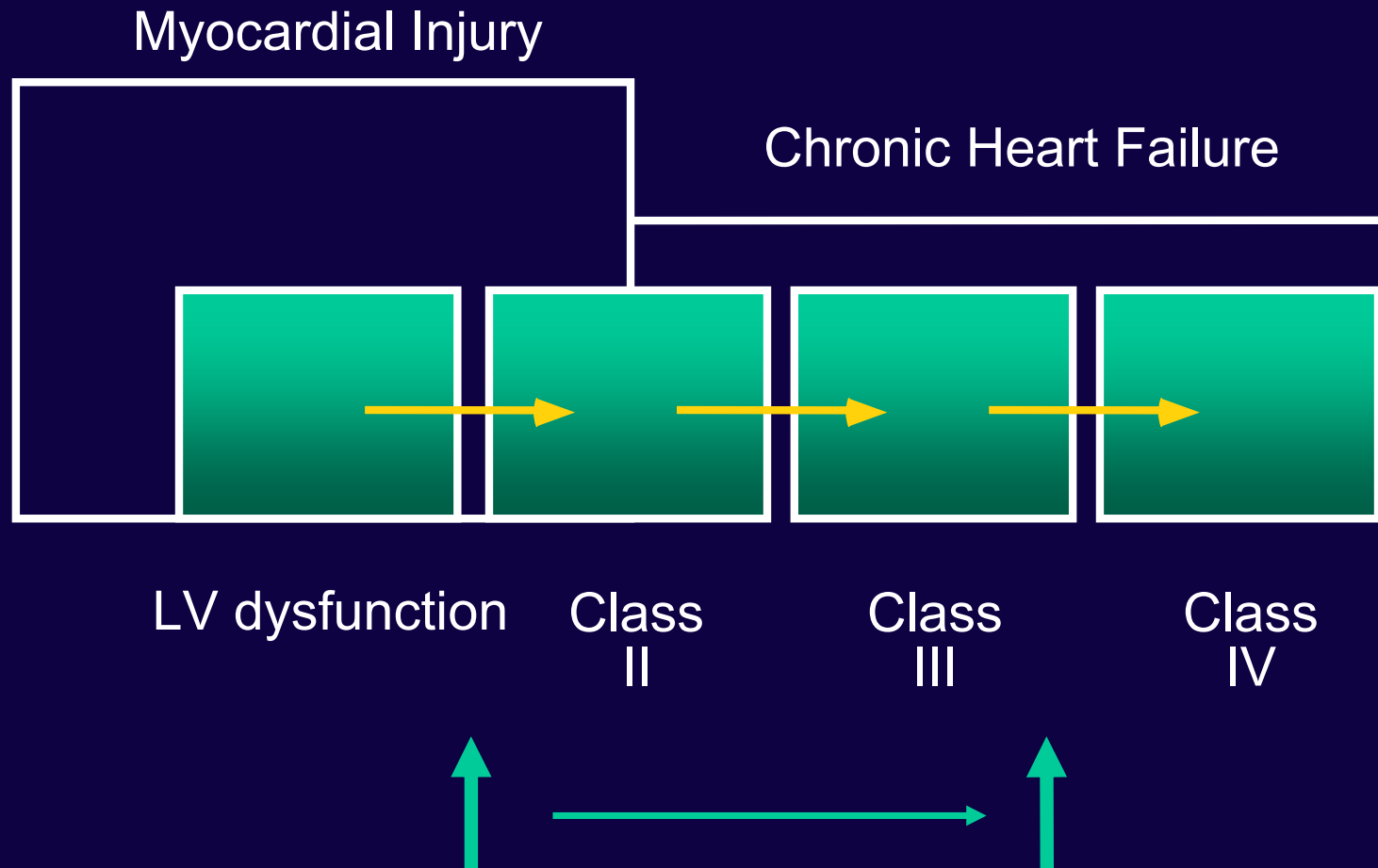
Included in this table are all β -blockers that have been evaluated in placebo-controlled trials that enrolled (collectively) more than more than 75 deaths. Drugs are listed in order of increasing odds ratios. Data are from Freemantle et al.

Relation of Pharmacological Properties of β -Blockers and Effect of Survival in Post-Infarction Trials

Drug	β -1 receptor blockade	Cardio- selective	Intrinsic sympatho- mimetic activity	Odds ratio vs placebo (95%CI)
Timolol	+	—	—	0.59 (0.46-0.77)
Propranolol	+	—	—	0.71 (0.59-0.85)
Carvedilol	+	—	—	0.74 (0.57-0.95)
Sotalol	+	—	—	0.80 (0.54-1.21)
Metoprolol	+	+	—	0.80 (0.66-0.96)
Practolol	+	+	+	0.80 (0.63-1.02)
Alprenolol	+	—	+	0.83 (0.59-1.17)
Oxprenolol	+	—	+	0.91 (0.71-1.17)
Pindolol	+	—	+	0.96 (0.60-1.55)
All β -blockers				0.77 (0.69-0.85)

Treatment effect of carvedilol includes the results of both CHAPS and CAPRICORN and is expressed as odds ratio rather than relative risk to be consistent with the approach used to estimate the treatment effect for other β -blockers. Data for other β -blockers are from Freemantle et al.





Relation of Pharmacological Properties of β -Blockers and Effect of Survival in Chronic Heart Failure Trials

Study Name	Treatment Groups (# of patients)	Hazard ratio for mortality (95% CI): All Patients	Hazard ratio for mortality (95% CI): Prior MI
CIBIS II	Placebo (n=1320) Bisoprolol (n=1327)	0.66 (0.54-0.81) P < 0.001	0.60 (0.45-0.80)
MERIT-HF	Placebo (n=2001) Metoprolol (n=1990)	0.66 (0.53-0.81) P < 0.001	0.60 (0.45-0.80)
COPERNICUS	Placebo (n=1133) Carvedilol (n=1156)	0.65 (0.52-0.81) P < 0.001	0.61 (0.45-0.83)
BEST	Placebo (n=1354) Bucindolol (n=1354)	0.90 (0.78-1.02) P = 0.13	0.95 (0.80-1.10)
Xamoterol Severe Heart Failure Study	Placebo (n=164) Xamoterol (n=352)	2.54 (1.04-6.18) P = 0.02	Not evaluated

Is It Appropriate To Consider the Results of Other Post-Infarction β -Blocker Trials?

- Long-term blockade of β -adrenergic receptors can be expected to reduce mortality in post-infarction patients.
- Drugs classified as β -blockers can exert effects that may detract from their ability as β -blockers to reduce mortality, and current approaches are able to detect such effects.
- The pharmacological properties of β -blockers that may diminish their survival effects appear to be similar in the post-infarction setting and in chronic heart failure.
- The observed effects of carvedilol in both post-MI patients and in chronic CHF indicate that the drug does not exert effects that detract from its action as a β -blocker to prolong life.

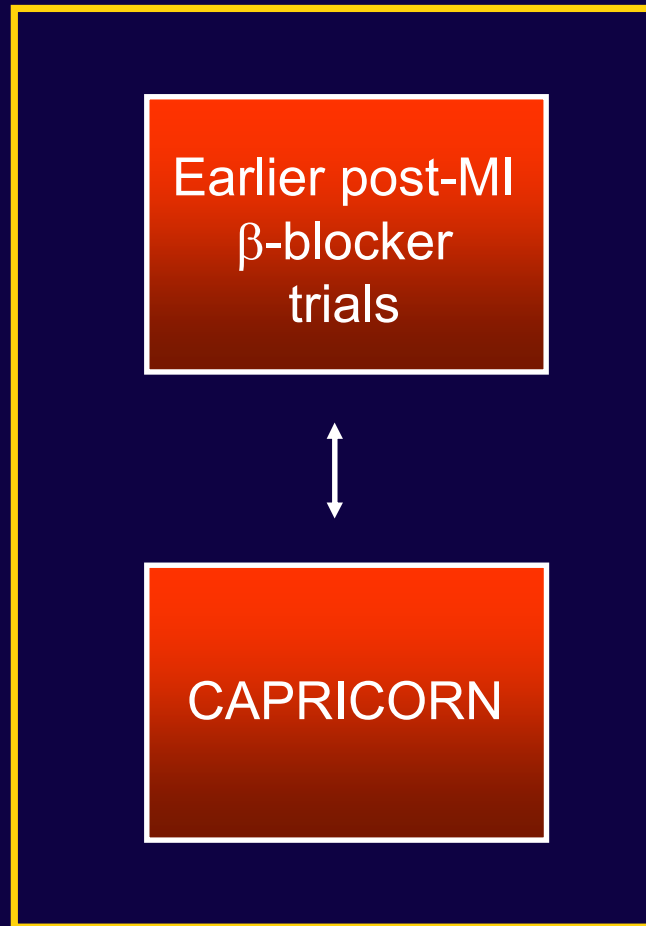
The Critical Question

Is the totality of available data sufficiently credible and persuasive to conclude that carvedilol reduces mortality in the post-infarction patient with LV dysfunction?

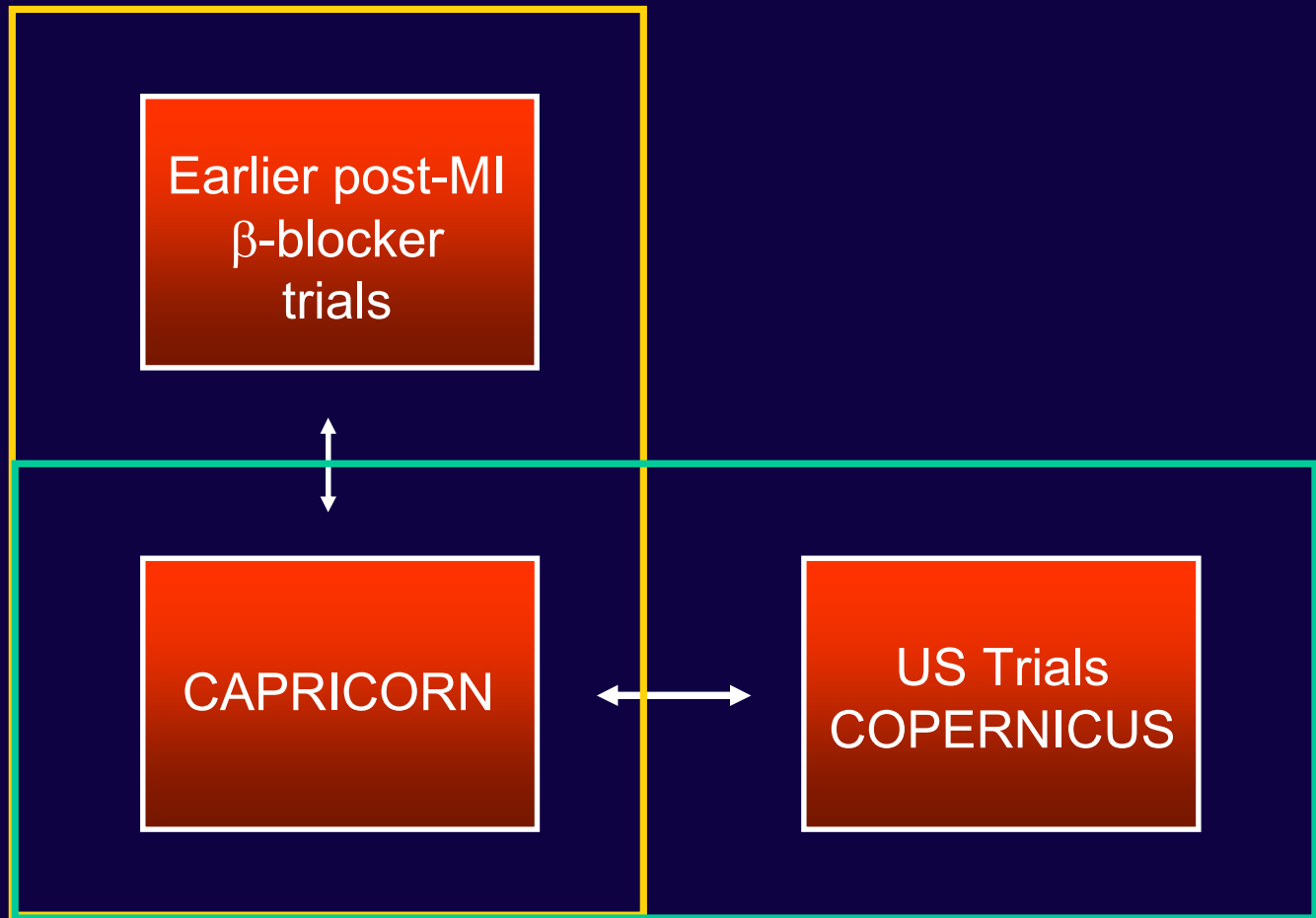


Mortality reduction
of anticipated magnitude seen
in trial designed to find it

Beta-
blocker
studies
in post
MI pts



Beta-
blocker
studies
in post
MI pts



Carvedilol studies in LV dysfunction on top of ACE inhibitor

Class

Beta-
blocker
studies
in post
MI pts

Earlier post-MI
 β -blocker
trials



CAPRICORN



US Trials
COPENICUS

Carvedilol studies in LV dysfunction

Time

What Rules Should Guide the Decision to Allow the Inclusion of a “Discovery” Into Labeling?

What Rules Should Guide the Decision to Allow the Inclusion of a “Discovery” Into Labeling?

- **Finding should be a reduction in all-cause mortality in a trial designed to detect the finding**
- **Magnitude of the benefit anticipated by the protocol**
- **Observed magnitude of benefit both clinically relevant and realistic, with conclusions about benefit based on a meaningful number of events**
- **Substantial evidence of a similar benefit (both in nature and magnitude) in the same disease state with other members of the same class of drug**
- **Substantial evidence that the drug produces the same benefit later in the same disease, with comparable magnitude of benefit to that with other members of the class**
- **Support within the trial by additional evidence of clinical benefits without overriding safety concerns**

Question to the Committee

- How much are you willing to allow an increase in the false positive rate by accepting data in a clinical trial that missed its primary endpoint?

Question to the Committee

- How much are you willing to allow an increase in the false positive rate by accepting data in a clinical trial that missed its primary endpoint?
- In making regulatory decisions based on trials that missed their primary endpoints — can one reduce the false positive rate to acceptable levels, given the opportunity to consider not just the results of one trial but the totality of available data? If so, how?

***Effect of Carvedilol on
Non-Fatal Events in the
CAPRICORN Trial***

Henry Dargie, MB., ChB.

Comparison With Earlier Post-MI Trials

	CAPRICORN Trial	Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials
All-cause mortality	0.77 (0.60, 0.98)	0.77 (0.69, 0.85)
All-cause mortality or CV hospitalization	0.92 (0.80, 1.07)	?

Source: Freemantle et al, Br Med J 1999; 318:1730-7

Components of Endpoint of Death or CV Hospitalization

	Placebo (n=984)	Carvedilol (n=975)
Death	78	65
Hospitalization due to non-fatal myocardial infarction	45	27
Hospitalization due to worsening heart failure	102	97
Hospitalization due to unstable angina	37	40
Hospitalization due to cardiac arrhythmia	25	8
Hospitalization due to stroke or TIA	12	12
Hospitalization due to other angina or chest pain	42	57
Hospitalization for other cardiovascular reason	26	34
Total	367	340

Results based on blinded adjudication by the Endpoint Committee and post hoc identification of admissions for a cardiac arrhythmia. Hospitalizations with > 1 cause were counted only once and attributed to the worst event (MI > CHF > stroke > TIA > supraventricular or ventricular arrhythmia > unstable angina > other angina or chest pain > other). Admissions for chest pain not due to a MI or unstable angina was attributed to “other angina”, unless there was a reason to suspect otherwise.

Endpoints Used in Other Post-MI β -Blocker Trials

	Non-Mortality CV Endpoint	Other Reported Events
Norwegian Timolol Trial	Nonfatal recurrent MI	↑ CHF, ↑ hypotension, ↑ dizziness, ↑ bradycardia, ↑ peripheral vascular symptoms, ↓ arrhythmias
Göteborg Metoprolol Trial	Nonfatal recurrent MI, arrhythmias	↑ hypotension, ↑ bradycardia, ↑ heart block
Beta-Blocker Heart Attack Trial	Nonfatal recurrent MI	↑ early CHF, ↑ hypotension, ↑ peripheral vascular symptoms, ↓ arrhythmias
Lopressor Intervention Trial	None	↑ hypotension, ↑ bradycardia, ↓ arrhythmias

Effect of Propranolol on Cardiovascular Events Other Than Reinfarction in the BHAT Trial

	Placebo	Propranolol
Heart failure	11.6%	12.6%
Angina	38.2%	39.0%
Claudication	11.6%	11.3%
Stroke	1.6%	1.5%

Source: JAMA 183; 250:2814-2819

Endpoints in Other LV Dysfunction Trials

	Target Patients	Non-Mortality CV Endpoint
SAVE (captopril)	Post-MI LVD	CV death or hospitalization for MI or CHF
AIRE (ramipril)	Post-MI CHF	Death or recurrent MI, severe resistant CHF or stroke
TRACE (trandolapril)	Post-MI LVD	(1) recurrent MI; (2) progression to severe CHF
EPHESUS (eplerenone)	Post-MI CHF	Death or hospitalization for MI, CHF, stroke or arrhythmia
PRAISE (amlodipine)	LVD + CHF	Death or hospitalization for MI, CHF, ventricular arrhythmia
COPERNICUS (carvedilol)	LVD + CHF	Death or hospitalization for MI or unstable angina, CHF, stroke or TIA, atrial or ventricular arrhythmia, bradycardia or heart block

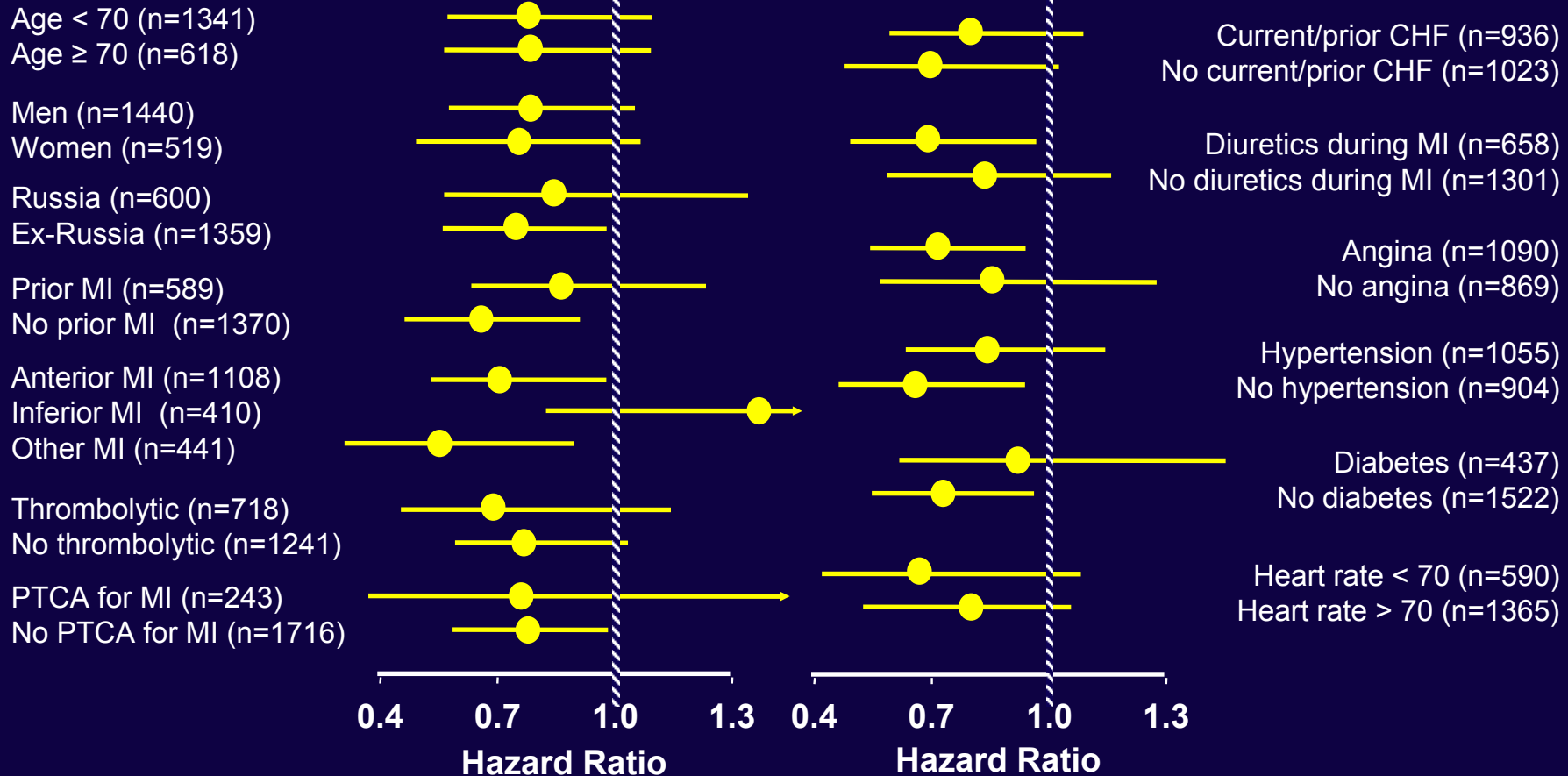
Effect on Cardiovascular Endpoints

	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
CV death or MI (post-MI β -blocker trials, TRACE)	181	128	0.70 (0.56-0.87)	0.002
CV death, MI or CHF (SAVE)	258	211	0.81 (0.68-0.97)	0.023
Death, MI, CHF or stroke (AIRE)	276	226	0.81 (0.68-0.97)	0.018
Death, MI, CHF or arrhythmia (PRAISE)	277	224	0.80 (0.67-0.95)	0.012
Death, MI, CHF, CVA or arrhythmia (EPHESUS)	288	231	0.79 (0.66-0.94)	0.006
Death, MI/USA, CHF, CVA/TIA, arrhythmia/HB, \downarrow HR (COPERNICUS)	327	275	0.83 (0.70-0.97)	0.019

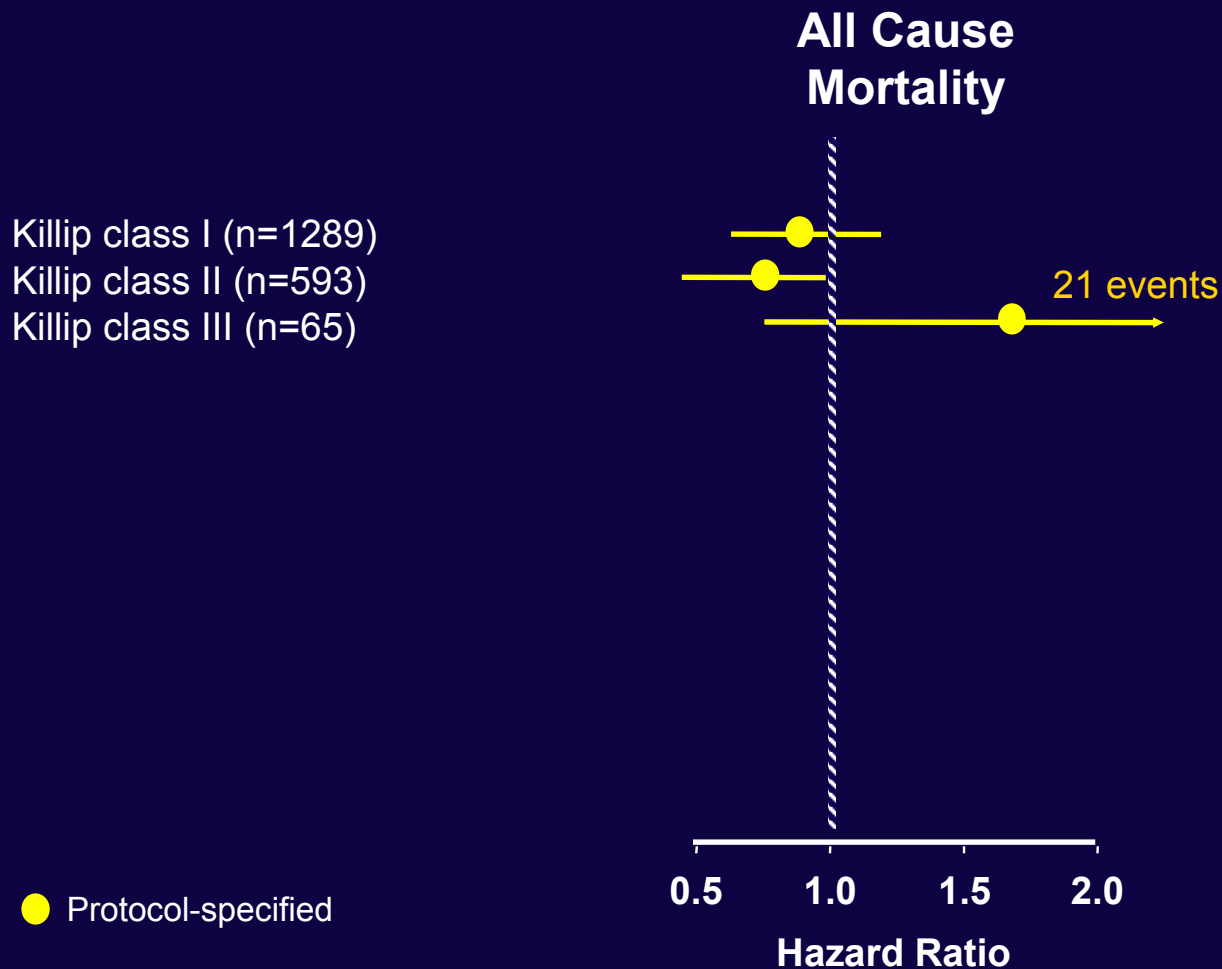
Other Analyses

- Mortality subgroups
- Mode of death
- Recurrent myocardial infarction
- Cardiac arrhythmias

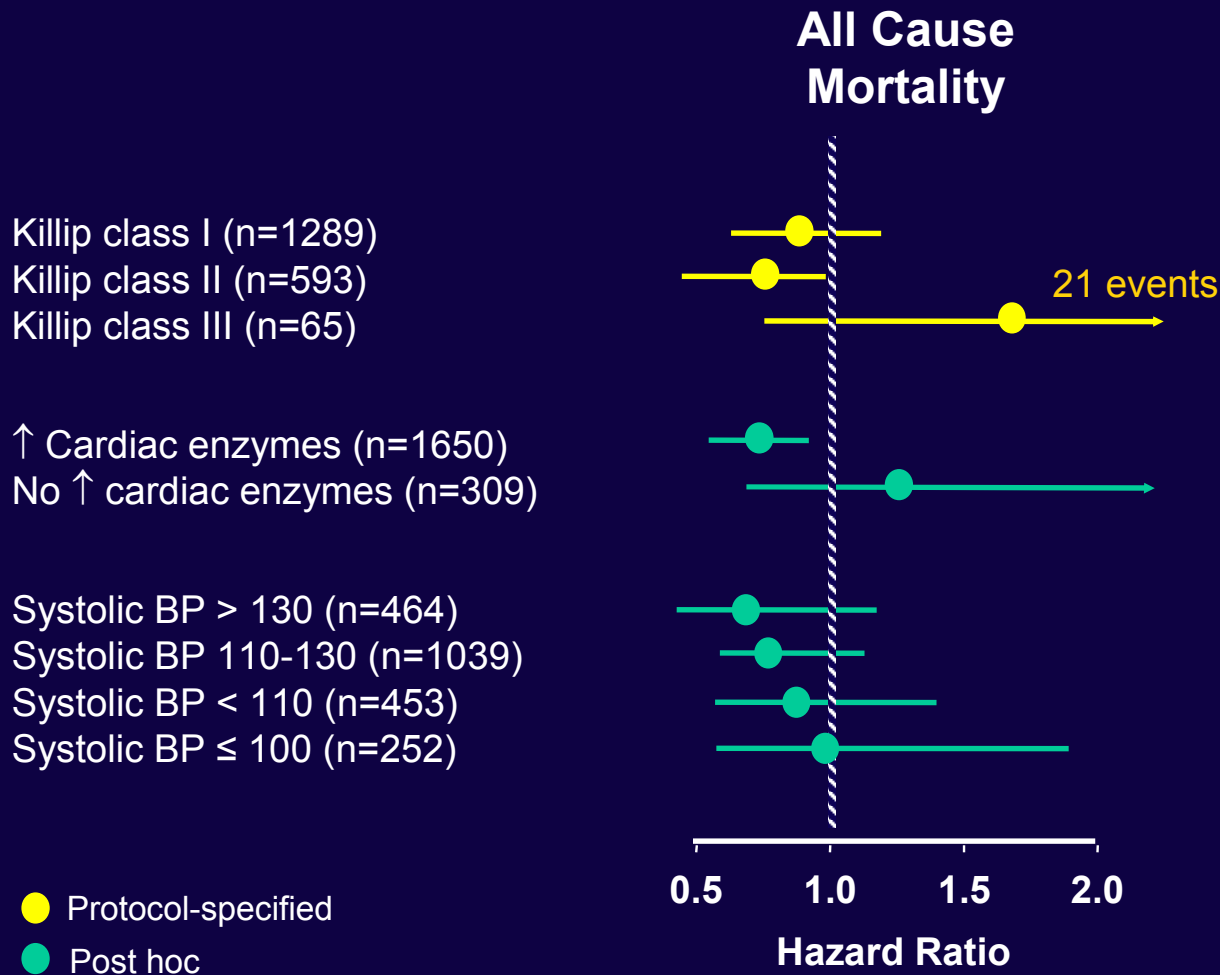
All-Cause Mortality Subgroups



CAPRICORN Subgroups



CAPRICORN Subgroups



Effect of Treatment on Mode of Death in Other Post-MI β -Blocker and Other Carvedilol Trials

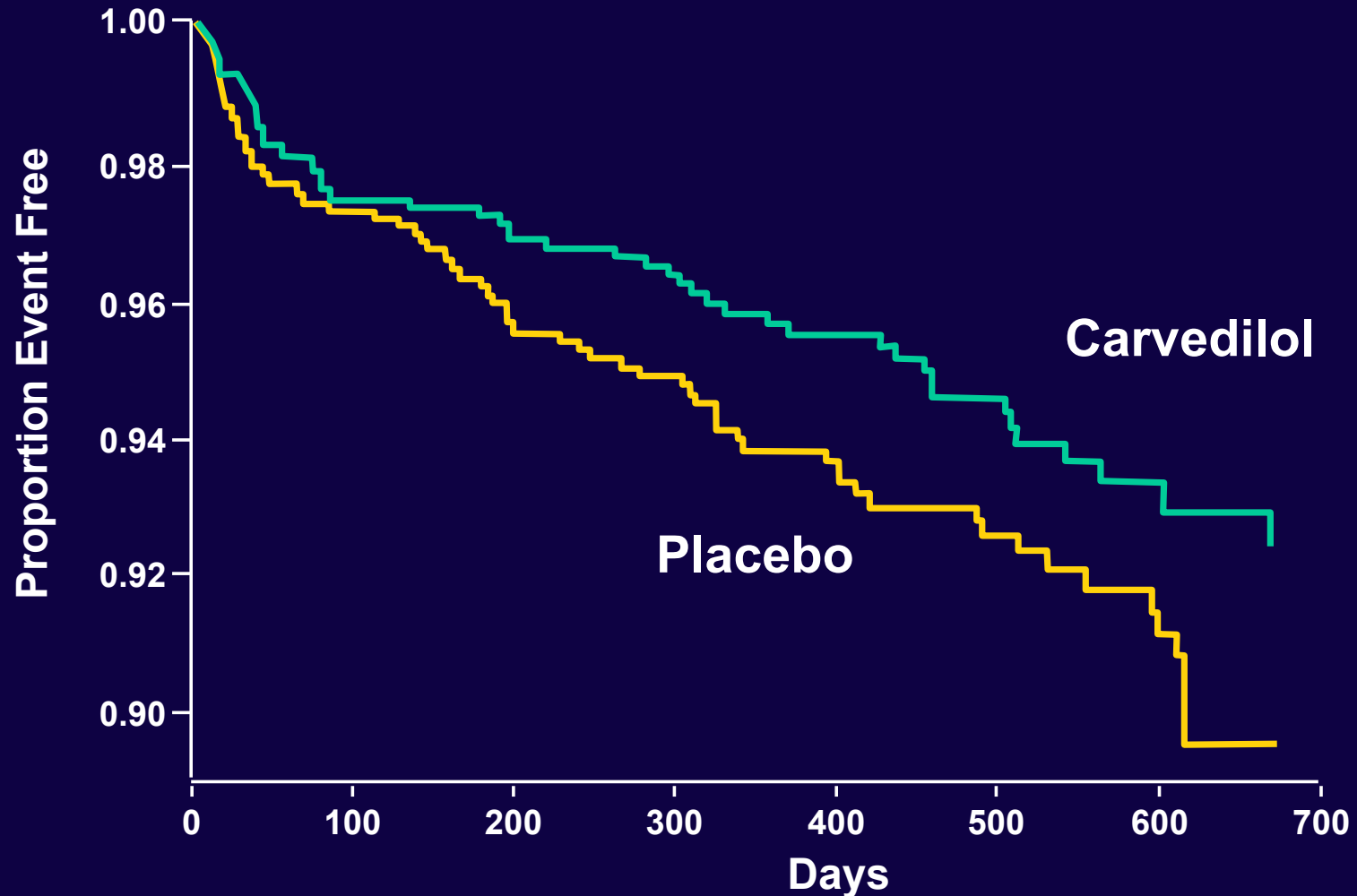
	Reported Effect on Mode of Death
Norwegian Timolol Trial	↓ Cardiovascular death ↓ Sudden death
Göteborg Metoprolol Trial	No specific information
Beta-Blocker Heart Attack Trial	↓ Cardiovascular death ↓ Sudden death
COPERNICUS	↓ Cardiovascular death ↓ Sudden death

Adjudicated Cause of Death

	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
Cardiovascular death	139	104	0.75 (0.58-0.96)	0.024
Sudden death*	69	51	0.74 (0.51-1.06)	0.099
Death due to worsening heart failure	30	18	0.60 (0.33-1.07)	0.083

Asterisk identifies prespecified secondary endpoint.

Effect on Sudden Death



Meta-Analysis of Effect of β -Blockers on Non-Fatal MI in Earlier Post-MI Trials

	Earlier Post-MI β-Blocker Trials
Non-fatal recurrent myocardial infarction	0.74 (0.66, 0.83)

Based on 1242 events in 18,841 patients enrolled in 24 trials

Yusuf et al., Prog CV Dis 1985; 27:335-371

Effect on Recurrent Infarction

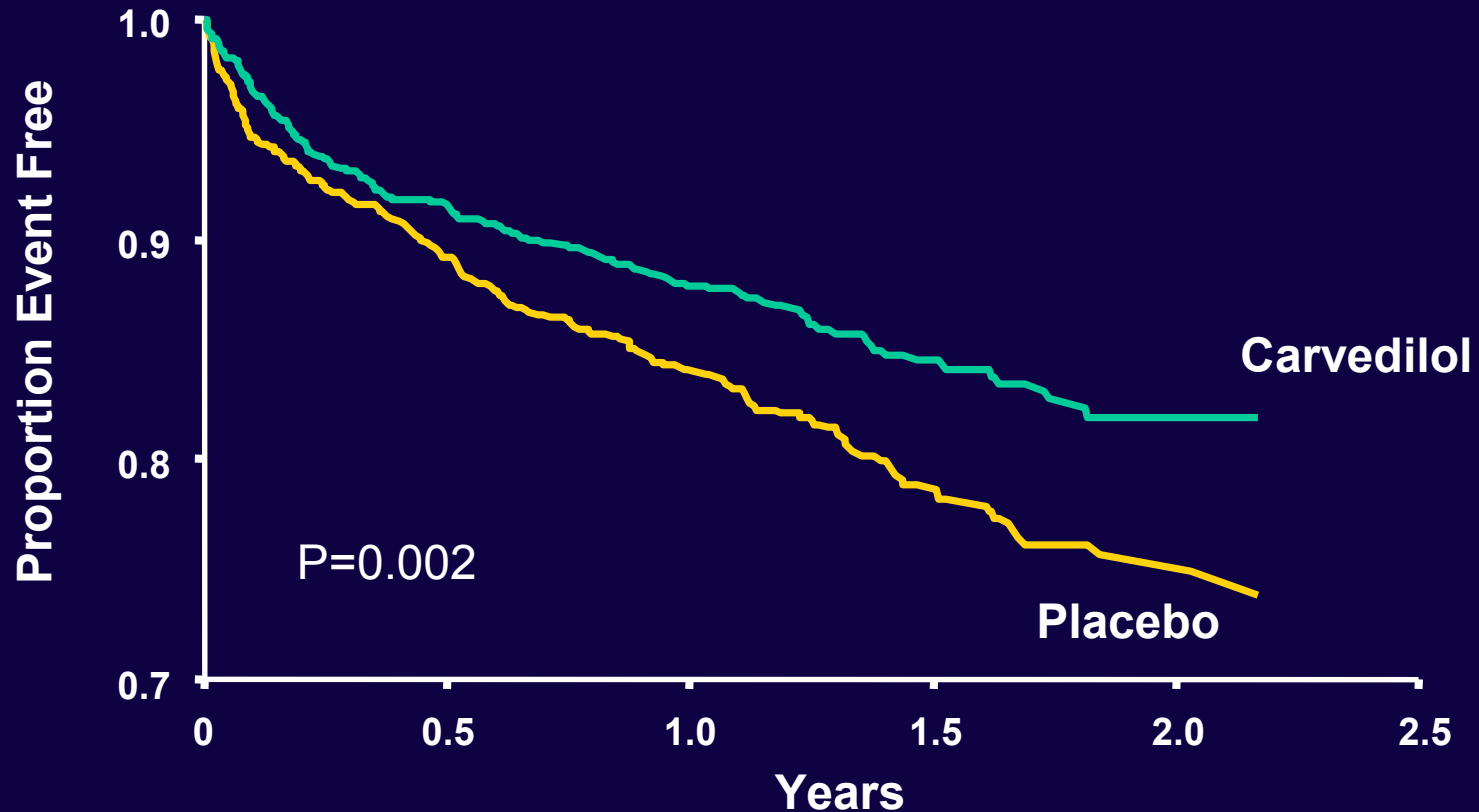
	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
Hospitalization for non-fatal myocardial infarction	57	34	0.59 (0.39-0.90)	0.014
Fatal or non-fatal myocardial infarction	66	40	0.60 (0.40-0.89)	0.010
CV death or non-fatal myocardial infarction	181	128	0.70 (0.56-0.87)	0.002
Any death or non-fatal myocardial infarction	192	139	0.71 (0.57-0.89)	0.002

Among first events leading to death or CV hospitalization (co-primary endpoint), 45 of such events on placebo and 27 such events on carvedilol were due to a recurrent infarction.

Total number of hospitalizations for myocardial infarction (including first and recurrent) was 60 in the placebo group and 37 in the carvedilol group.

All-Cause Mortality or Recurrent Myocardial Infarction

CAPRICORN



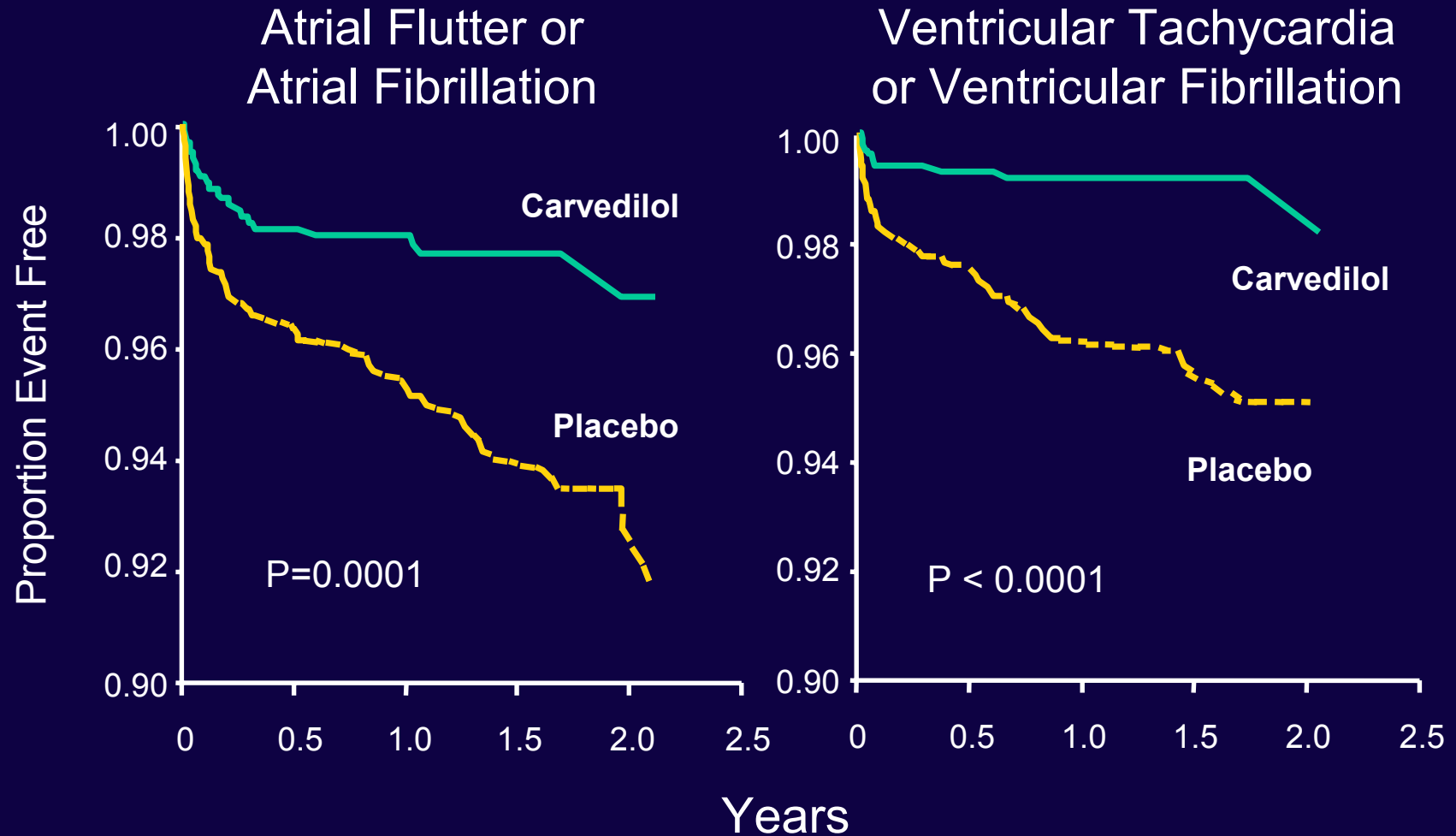
Effect of Treatment on Cardiac Arrhythmias in Other Post-MI β -Blocker Trials

	Observed Effect on Arrhythmias
Norwegian Timolol Trial	↓ Arrhythmias
Göteborg Metoprolol Trial	↓ Arrhythmias
Beta-Blocker Heart Attack Trial	↓ Arrhythmias
Lopressor Intervention Trial	↓ Arrhythmias

Effect on Cardiac Arrhythmia

	Placebo	Carvedilol	Hazard ratio (95% CI)	P value
Any supraventricular arrhythmia	54	26	0.48 (0.30-0.76)	0.0015
Atrial flutter or atrial fibrillation	53	22	0.41 (0.25-0.68)	0.0003
Any ventricular arrhythmia	69	26	0.37 (0.24-0.58)	< 0.0001
Ventricular tachycardia or ventricular fibrillation	40	12	0.30 (0.16-0.57)	< 0.0001

Time to First Cardiac Arrhythmia



Summary

- The effect of carvedilol on cardiovascular events was very similar to that seen in other post-infarction β -blocker trials:
 - Reduction in all-cause mortality by 23% ($P=0.031$) including pattern of subgroup effects
 - Reduction in cardiovascular death by 25% ($P=0.024$)
 - Reduction in sudden death by 26% ($P=0.099$)
 - Reduction in non-fatal recurrent MI by 41% ($P=0.014$)
 - Reduction in fatal and non-fatal MI by 40% ($P=0.010$)
 - Reduction in CV death and non-fatal MI by 30% ($P=0.002$)
 - Reduction in atrial fibrillation/flutter by 59% ($P=0.0003$)
 - Reduction in VT or VF by 70% ($P < 0.0001$)

Summary

- All of these benefits were observed in patients
 - already taking an ACE inhibitor
 - receiving all appropriate treatments for the immediate and long term management of post-infarction patients.

Safety of Carvedilol in the CAPRICORN Trial and Concluding Remarks

Milton Packer, M.D

Concordance of Results of CAPRICORN With Earlier Post-Infarction β -Blocker Trials

- Concordance of effects on all-cause mortality (including pattern of subgroup effects)
- Concordance of effects on mode of death (e.g., cardiovascular and sudden death)
- Concordance of effects on non-fatal cardiovascular events (e.g., nonfatal reinfarction and cardiac arrhythmias)
- ?? Concordance of safety profile

Safety Issues Identified in Other Post-MI β -Blocker Trials

	Reported Adverse Events
Norwegian Timolol Trial	↑ pulmonary edema, ↑ hypotension, ↑ dizziness, ↑ bradycardia, ↑ peripheral vascular symptoms
Göteborg Metoprolol Trial	↑ hypotension, ↑ bradycardia, ↑ heart block
Beta-Blocker Heart Attack Trial	↑ early CHF, ↑ hypotension, ↑ peripheral vascular symptoms
Lopressor Intervention Trial	↑ hypotension, ↑ bradycardia

Adverse Cardiovascular Events More Frequent in Carvedilol Group

	Placebo (n=980)	Carvedilol (n=969)
Hypotension	114 (11.6%)	176 (18.2%)
Dizziness	105 (10.7%)	144 (14.9%)
Bradycardia	37 (3.8%)	63 (6.5%)
Lung edema	31 (3.2%)	42 (4.3%)
Peripheral edema	28 (2.9%)	43 (4.4%)
Syncope or presyncope	19 (1.9%)	38 (3.9%)
Peripheral vascular disease	16 (1.6%)	30 (3.1%)
Postural hypotension	9 (0.9%)	20 (2.1%)

All adverse cardiovascular events with frequency > 2% in either group
with $\geq 1\%$ difference between groups

Adverse Cardiovascular Events Less Frequent in Carvedilol Group

	Placebo (n=980)	Carvedilol (n=969)
Angina	119 (12.1%)	108 (11.1%)
Chest pain	109 (11.1%)	97 (10.0%)
Myocardial infarction	89 (9.1%)	55 (5.7%)
Thorax pain	40 (4.1%)	28 (2.9%)
Atrial fibrillation	40 (4.1%)	13 (1.3%)
Tachycardia	27 (2.8%)	14 (1.4%)
Nonspecified CV disorder	25 (2.6%)	11 (1.1%)
Ventricular tachycardia	20 (2.0%)	2 (0.2%)

All adverse cardiovascular events with frequency > 2% in either group
with ≥ 1% difference between groups

Reports of Serious Adverse Events

	Placebo	Carvedilol
Heart failure	91 (9.3%)	78 (8.0%)
Myocardial infarction	88 (9.0%)	54 (5.6%)
Atrial fibrillation	16 (1.6%)	2 (0.2%)
Ventricular tachycardia	15 (1.5%)	1 (0.1%)
Cardiac arrest	14 (1.4%)	6 (0.6%)
Hypotension	2 (0.2%)	13 (1.3%)

All serious adverse events with frequency > 1% in either group with
>1% difference between groups

Class

Beta-
blocker
studies
in post
MI pts

Earlier post-MI
 β -blocker
trials



CAPRICORN



US Trials
COPENICUS

Carvedilol studies in LV dysfunction

Time

One Last Question

Even if the Committee were to agree that the mortality finding in the CAPRICORN trial is credible and persuasive, why should it recommend incorporation of the results of the CAPRICORN trial into current labeling for carvedilol?

Is There a Need to Recommend the Approval of Carvedilol for the Post-Infarction Setting?

- No data to recommend the addition of any β -blocker currently approved for use in infarct survivors to an ACE inhibitor (or post-infarction treatments) in patients who have LV dysfunction following their acute infarction.
- All β -blockers currently approved for use in infarct survivors carry a contraindication for use in patients with heart failure.
- The frequency of use of any β -blocker in post-infarction patients with LV dysfunction is low.

Is There a Need to Recommend the Approval of Carvedilol for the Post-Infarction Setting?

- Such use will remain low unless physicians are educated about the earlier administration of β -blockers in patients likely to require them in the future.
- Best opportunity for intervention exists when patients are in the hospital after they have been stabilized following their acute infarction.
- Among approved β -blockers, the most persuasive data in post-infarction patients with LV dysfunction receiving an ACE inhibitor exist for carvedilol.

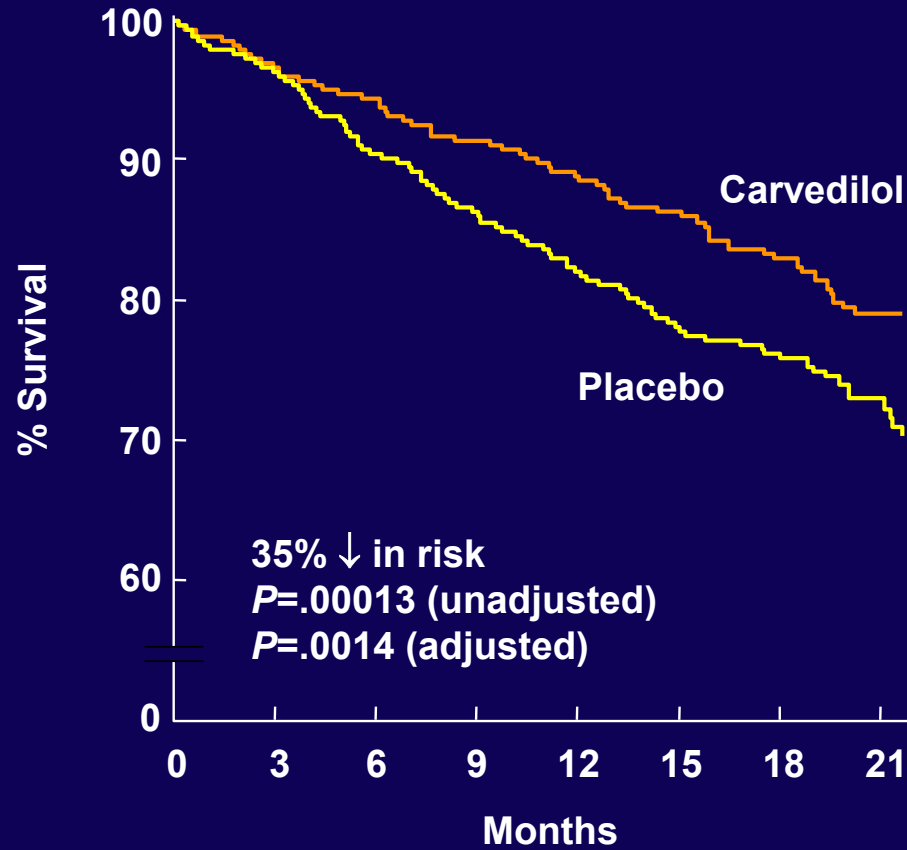
DSMB Meeting #5 (March 10, 1999)

Closed Section

- “The best option was thought to be a change of the primary endpoint to Death or cardiovascular hospitalization, keeping the target number of events for the primary endpoint unchanged. This would substantially increase the event rate and would allow the study to be completed in good order. Professor Julian was asked to write to the Steering Committee with this proposal.”
- Despite change in primary endpoint, stopping rules were still to be based on all-cause mortality.

COPERNICUS

All-Cause Mortality



Why Was Cardiovascular Hospitalization Defined To Include All Such Events?

- Original protocol paid little attention to definition of CV hospitalization because it was a secondary endpoint. Steering Committee assigned responsibility for defining CV hospitalization to Endpoint Committee.
- Endpoint Committee defined CV hospitalization as hospitalizations for which there was no clear non-CV cause. Committee did not target reasons that might be favorably influenced by β -blockade.
- Steering Committee was reluctant to make too many changes. When it changed the primary endpoint (by simply elevating a secondary endpoint), it was reluctant to change the definition of the endpoint.

Effect of Carvedilol on Primary Endpoints According to Prior Use of β -Blockers

		Death or CV Hospitalization	All-Cause Mortality
Oral or IV β -blocker during/after index MI	Yes (n=728)	0.93 (0.71, 1.20) [n=226]	0.77 (0.49, 1.23) [n=74]
	No (n=1231)	0.92 (0.77, 1.10) [n=481]	0.76 (0.57, 1.01) [n=193]

Number in brackets under each hazard ratio denotes number of events

Reasons for Other CV Hospitalization

	Placebo (n=984)	Carvedilol (n=975)
Atypical chest pain	2	3
Dyspnea or edema	3	2
Peripheral vascular disease	5	2
Venous thrombosis/pulmonary embolism	3	5
Hypotension	2	5
Syncope	3	6
Pericardial disease	1	2
Cardiovascular procedure or its complication	3	3
Miscellaneous events occurring once	2	3
Not classified	2	3
Total	26	34

Adverse CV Events (Frequency $\geq 1.5\%$) in Either Treatment Group (Uptitration Phase)

	Placebo (n=980)	Carvedilol (n=969)
Hypotension	81 (8.3%)	125 (12.9%)
Dizziness	55 (5.6%)	96 (9.9%)
Heart failure	42 (4.3%)	47 (4.9%)
Angina pectoris	41 (4.2%)	41 (4.2%)
Bradycardia	28 (2.9%)	45 (4.6%)
Chest pain	34 (3.5%)	39 (4.0%)
Myocardial infarction	28 (2.9%)	13 (1.3%)
Atrial fibrillation	19 (1.9%)	8 (0.8%)
Peripheral edema	14 (1.4%)	15 (1.5%)
Lung edema	8 (0.8%)	19 (2.0%)
Syncope or presyncope	4 (0.4%)	15 (1.5%)

Total Number of Hospitalizations for Specified Reasons

	Placebo (n=984)	Carvedilol (n=975)
Hospitalizations for any reason	693	621
Hospitalization due to myocardial infarction	60	37
Hospitalization due to worsening heart failure	181	151
Hospitalization due to unstable angina	53	56
Hospitalization due to stroke or TIA	18	17
Hospitalization due to other angina or chest pain	84	92
Hospitalizations for presumed or other CV reason	70	79
Hospitalization for cardiovascular procedure	93	84
Hospitalization for non-cardiovascular reasons	123	96
Failed to meet criteria for inclusion as hospitalization	11	9

Hospitalizations with more than one cause were counted only once and attributed to the worst event listed as a reason for the admission (myocardial infarction > heart failure > unstable angina > stroke > TIA > other angina or chest pain > nonclassified or other > cardiovascular procedure > noncardiovascular).

Effect of Study Drug on Duration of Index Hospitalization

	Placebo	Carvedilol
Duration of index hospitalization (days)	17.9	17.3
Number of patients who had event that prolonged index hospitalization	145	91